

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

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Hongkong Weekly Press.

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ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The German Mail of the 30th June arrived per s.s. *Goeben* on the 28th ultimo.

The French Mail of the 2nd July arrived per s.s. *Tonkin* on the 2nd inst.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

Count Arco-Valley, who was German Minister in Tokyo from 1901 to 1906, has died at Rio de Janeiro.

The number of cholera cases in the Philippines was greatly increased last week end by the large mortality in Cagayan Valley.

The Sicawei Observatory reading on the 22nd inst. gave the temperature at Shanghai as 100, which is the highest record since 1900.

An American Judge has ruled that the revised Ordinances of the City of Manila are null and void because of the lack of proper publication.

The pair of gold flower vases, which H. M. the Korean Emperor presented to Prince Ito recently, weigh nearly 25 pounds and are valued at 45,000 yen.

Although last year was a bad one for trade Bangkok trade showed a continuation of the increase which has taken place in former years. The rice export is of course the principal figure.

The death is announced of Dr. Wheatley, a very old resident of Singapore, who had latterly been engaged as a ship's surgeon on a coolie ship running between China and the Straits.

Mr. Lindsey Smith, the new assistant Judge of H.B.M.'s Supreme Court at Shanghai, arrived in the Northern settlement last week, having travelled out via Siberia, accompanied by his wife.

Mr. E. A. Leggatt, of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Co., who has for the past six months been stationed at Foochow, has been transferred to Singapore. He has been succeeded at Foochow by Mr. M. C. Ruddock.

Admiral Li Chun is reported to be energetically reorganizing the water police administration along the West river. This step is taken in order to give a foreign country no excuse for interfering with China's internal administration.

Mr. J. A. Olsen, who for some years past has held the position of First Berthing Officer in Shanghai Harbour and Woosung, died of sunstroke last week. The deceased was about thirty-six years of age and was a native of Norway.

The new President of the Board of Posts and Communications has after due consideration, decided to carry out the following reforms: (1), to link up the railways by telegraph; (2), to establish a mail steamship service; and (3), to open a college of telegraphy.

In order to additionally carry on the warehousing business, the Yokohama Dock Co. has concluded a loan of one million yen with Messrs. Sale and Frazar. The loan is endorsed by the One Hundredth Bank and is redeemable within three years, the rate of interest being 6.6 per cent. per annum.

An appeal to the Full Court at Shanghai has been lodged against the judgment of Mr. Justice Bourne in the case of the s.s. *Norman Isles* v. Messrs. Gibb, Livingstone & Co. The claim was for Tls. 1,526 paid for receiving, storing and delivering cargo, and the Acting Judge found for the plaintiffs with costs.

The Board of Trade have awarded a piece of plate to Captain Carl Ludwig Rosiefsky, master of the German steamship *Kohsichang*, of Bremen, in recognition of his services in rescuing the survivors of the shipwrecked crew of the British steamship *Charterhouse*, of Singapore, which foundered in Hainan Straits during a typhoon on September 29th, 1906.

Nastine, a much vaunted specific against leprosy, is being experimented with on a large scale in Java. News of its alleged success in India aroused such high hopes among lepers at a Government asylum in that island that, to help them, subscriptions were raised among the public for a supply of nastine, which has just arrived and been forwarded to the asylum.

Mr. Charles J. Roberts, manager of the Bangkok branch of the Standard Oil Co. of New York, was arrested at Penang on July 16th on the Japanese steamer *Bingo Maru*, on a charge of embezzling ticals 3,000. The magistrate remanded him till next day, when formal evidence was heard and a remand was granted till Friday, the 23rd inst. Bail was allowed in the sum of \$4,000.

The Japanese Sugar Refining Company appears to have encountered a fresh obstacle at the very outset of its resuscitated career. It has no money to pay its taxes. A sum of 70,000 yen became due on account of business tax and income tax on the 1st of June, but the Company has not yet succeeded in collecting funds to meet the obligation. What step will ultimately be taken is a matter of conjecture.

On the 2nd instant, says the *Japan Daily Mail*, the Home Department granted the application of the Yokohama Municipality to raise a foreign loan of £716,500, the issue price to be 98, and the sum received by the Municipality 94. The debt will be unredeemed for 15 years and will be thereafter paid off in 30 years. The issuing banks are the Industrial, Parr's and the Hongkong and Shanghai, the brokers being Messrs. Panmure and Gordon. There are the usual commissions.

On the morning of the 21st inst. Rear-Admiral Terapaki, of the Japanese Southern Squadron, paid an official visit to Macao on the gunboat *Uji*. The Admiral was received with the honours due to his rank, a guard of honour being posted at the naval wharf. His Excellency called upon H.E. the Governor, who an hour later returned the visit on board the Admiral's ship. An official dinner was subsequently given in the Admiral's honour at Government House, many of the leading officials being present.

According to the *Asahi* a meeting of the Diplomatic Corps was held at Peking on July 10 to consider, among other things, the extension of the settlement at Shanghai, and the Huangpu Conservancy. It was decided that the foreign houses built outside the Settlement and to the North of it ought to be included in the Settlement. It was also decided to ask the Chinese Government to set aside Tls. 8,000,000 for the completion of the Huangpu Conservancy work. The Ministers who were present were those of Great Britain, Spain and Japan; the other Legations were represented by their Secretaries.

An interesting legal question has arisen in connection with the arrest at Penang of Mr. C. J. Roberts on a charge of embezzlement from the Bangkok Office of the Standard Oil Co. The warrant for arrest was issued by the British Court on the 9th July and sent to the police for execution, being returned by them on the 13th with the intimation that they were unable to find Mr. Roberts in Siam. It is contended that the warrant was issued after the treaty was ratified, and this is the point in dispute. It was said that the Treaty was not actually ratified in London until five o'clock on the afternoon of the 9th, i.e., six or seven hours later in Bangkok.

At the Assizes at Penang, on the 23rd inst. the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank case was called on, and Lee Chee Saing, who was extradited from Hongkong, pleaded guilty to extensive frauds. This caused general surprise in Court. He was sentenced to seven years' rigorous imprisonment. Mr. A. R. Adams eloquently appealed for a mitigation of the punishment.

A Hanoi paper commenting on the prevalence of plague in Tonkin urges that it is necessary not only to combat it at the time of its annual appearance but to take all possible measures to prevent the outbreak. Our contemporary urges (1) organisation of a rigorous medical surveillance, (2) that the natives should be taught the elementary rules of hygiene by the distribution of printed rules at their doors, and (3) the creation of a proper system of drainage for the city.

The practicability of conveying trains from the Stanghai-Nanking Railway over the Yangtze to the Tientsin-Pukou Railway by means of a steam ferry running from the water's edge at Hsiakuan (Nanking) across to Pukou is being discussed, but, as far as the British Consul is aware, nothing definite has yet been decided. The great variations in the water level of the Yangtze at different seasons of the year would appear to constitute a very serious difficulty.

The *Japan Mail* quotes an official return showing that, from the date (1899) when the Revised Treaties went into operation until the close of 1905, the number of civil actions tried by Japanese tribunals in which foreigners were concerned totalled 114, and out of that aggregate the foreign litigant was successful in 80 instances. This, adds our contemporary, is practical and conclusive evidence as to the impartiality of the Japanese judiciary *vis à vis* alien suitors, but unfortunately it is the unsuccessful litigants who raise their voices loudest, and by their outcry a false impression is produced.

The Hon. A. Murray, colonial engineer and surveyor-general of the Straits Settlements, retires from the colonial service, on pension, on September 1, and will, it is understood, leave the colony at the end of next month, when he will have completed 38 years' service. The greater portion of this time—from 1871 to 1897—was spent in Ceylon. Mr. Murray came to the Straits in 1898. It is believed that Mr. Murray's successor as head of the P. W. D. will be Mr. F. J. Pigott, at present deputy colonial engineer and surveyor general at Penang, and that Mr. Pigott will be succeeded by Mr. C. G. May. Mr. Pigott commenced his colonial service in Ceylon 22 years ago, and came to the Straits in 1905.

For almost six weeks now, says the *Shanghai Mercury*, a strenuous battle has been proceeding between the Chinese and foreign authorities in Shanghai for what practically amounts to possession of an unfortunate Chinaman's body. The issues involved in the case are not new, in fact there is a well established precedent in the matter, but the Chinese officials are fighting the affair with the utmost tenacity. A little over a month ago a squabble occurred in a tea house in Hongkew, and as a result one of the participants was so severely injured that death supervened within a couple of days. The loafer who was alleged to have struck the fatal blow was taken into custody by the police, and the fight which has been proceeding ever since between the Mixed Court Magistrate and the Taotai on the one side and the American Assessor and Consular Body on the other, has been whether the man should be tried at the Mixed Court in the City. Trial in the Mixed Court would be according to precedent established in similar cases, but ignoring this the Chinese are endeavouring by every means to have him taken to the City. So far they have been unsuccessful and the case has hung fire, but now they seem to be determined upon drastic measures. A despatch has been sent by the Taotai to the effect that if an arrangement is not come to the Chinese will send the man to the City on their own authority, heedless of the objections raised by the foreigners. This they will, however, probably find to be supremely difficult, as the man is securely in custody in the Municipal Gaol, and will not be released without word from the proper quarters.

THE SCIENCE OF ETHNOLOGY.

(Daily Press, July 24th.)

The recent discovery of a fossil human lower jaw, 10 kilometres S.E. of Heidelberg in Baden, seems likely to add considerably to our knowledge of early ethnology, and forces us to date back another stage the appearance of the human race on the face of the earth. The bone was only a lower jaw, yet fortunately it was so well preserved that the entire set of teeth, as well as the processes, are practically perfect, so that we are enabled to argue with certainty as to many points in the early history of the race. First, as to the age of the fossil: it is associated with remains of *elephas antiquus*, and *rhinoceros etruscus*, both well known pleistocene species; and so marking a comparatively early stage in the European ice age; the earliest finds up to this discovery belonging to a later stage when the European glaciation had passed its maximum and traces of modern conditions were becoming already apparent. It has, of course, long been held by those most competent to judge that human life must have commenced on our planet at least as early as the pliocene age, but hitherto the actual evidence of remains having been found was wanting. The pleistocene, as all geologists, with the exception of a small but busy clique of extreme uniformists, are willing to allow, was an epoch of marked geological disturbance when relative levels were profoundly altered, and the coast lines must in consequence have trended differently from the present conditions. The finding of the new fossil in the lowest bed of a vertical cutting 24.1 metres (79 feet) deep, composed of regularly deposited horizontal beds of sand and gravel, is a plain indication that profound changes have since man was first a resident in Europe marked the position of the coast lines.

From perfectly independent sources we know that Europe since that period has been several times connected with, and disconnected from, the island of Britain; we know likewise that the Mediterranean as a great sea is of later origin than the pleistocene age, yet ethnographers, frightened by the terrors held out by the modern geologist, hesitate to accept the necessary corollary that to account for the present distribution of the human races we must go beyond the existing grouping of ocean and continent.

Seen in this new light the Heidelberg jaw is of special interest, as we have actually to go to the other side of the world to find its nearest affinities. The first thing to be remarked about the jaw is the teeth; and here it is the resemblance, rather than the unlikeness to the most advanced type of to-day, that is most striking. In one important respect it has hitherto been held that one of the most striking characteristics of the human teeth is their almost uniform vertical development, especially of the canines. In nearly all of the apes the canines are largely developed, while in man they hardly rise above the general level. Even in such jaws of early man, as in that of Spy, &c., the canines are considerably more developed than in this still older fossil; the reason is possibly that the Heidelberg man was less aggressive than his predecessors, and was a more exclusively vegetable feeder. The form of the mandible is, however, more remote from present types than any other as yet discovered which can be referred to human type. The most remarkable of these differences is the entire absence of chin, which must have given the owner a particularly bestial appearance. This is a peculiarity now found in no human race, but it is remarkable that in many of the rude

engravings by the cave dwellers in Southern France the almost entire absence of chin is a marked feature. This want of chin in these rude sketches seems to be accompanied by an enormously developed nose, and it is remarkable that we find similar personal peculiarities marking the sculptures of the so-called Hittite peoples in Asia Minor. More curious still is the fact that for a like development we have to go almost to the antipodes, where in the ancient aboriginal carvings of Easter Island we find traces of a similar development. Other branches of what we are seemingly justified in calling the Tauric race may be noticed in Etruscan statuary, where the artist had not modelled his faces on Hellenic lines, but condescended to actual portraiture.

But we have not done with the peculiarities of the jaw; others are the thickness of the body, the width of the ascending ramus, and the low level of the coronoid process, which must have considerably aided in emphasizing the pithecoïd character of the animal. The condyloid process by which the mandible was articulated to the upper jaw possesses a much wider facet than in existing races, which probably gave greater power to the jaw, and was found useful in cracking the nuts which must have largely formed the food of the possessor. In the ordinary human jaw the mandible assumes the shape approximately of a slender horse-shoe; in this Heidelberg example, owing to the greater thickness of the bone itself, and the different position of the coronoid process, the general shape approximates to a trefoil; and in most of these respects the nearest approximation is to be discovered in certain aboriginal Australian jaws. Taken in connection with the discovery in Java of a cranium of the now generally accepted *Pithecanthropus erectus*, which showed many correspondences, and the mysterious, and hitherto unexplained carvings from Easter Island with their rude chinless caricatures, there are presumable grounds for connecting the South Pacific Ocean with the appearance of Pleistocene man. Even at the present day one occasionally may notice amongst low-class Malaysians, or degenerate Japanese, individuals with abnormally developed noses, and an almost entire absence of chin, the two seeming to be in some manner correlated. Considering the interest of the investigation, it is wonderful how little we know of the early development of the human race, as compared with the rest of the mammalian fauna. We can, for instance, make out a very complete genealogical tree of the succession of the horse, which we can trace from a tiny three-toed ancestor in the Eocene. We can likewise make out a fair series of elephants, down to the mammoth, which seems to have lived in China within the historic age, and the two surviving species, the Asiatic and African; while the authentic remains of man are confined to a few detached bones in the various museums of the world. There is, of course, a reason for this; and that reason appears to be connected with the instinct, ever since man became a thinking animal, of burying his dead.

Still, withal the views of scientific men are being devoted to the subject with less prejudice, and more in accordance with scientific methods; and although we are unlikely ever to make any grand discovery of human remains, such as occur with regard to other mammals in the south European caves, these long continued efforts are at last beginning to show some tangible results, on which in the near future will doubtless be erected a tangible science of ethnology.

BRITISH INTERESTS IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, July 26th.)

The somewhat sensational dispatch which Dr. MORRISON has sent to "The Times" from Peking is not easy to understand in the light of all that has been published during the past few months on the subject of loans for the construction of railways having their starting point at Hankow. Perhaps the full import of the message is a little obscured by the summary which REUTER gives us. We gather from the message that the PRESIDENT of the United States has sent to the Chinese Government a telegram which emphasises in friendly yet unmistakable terms the rights of Americans to participate in these railway loans. That part of the message is perfectly intelligible. The Chinese Government has shown no disposition to exclude Americans from participation. Has anyone else? As we showed the other day, it is entirely the fault of Americans themselves that they have so long been left out in the cold. They were invited to invest in Chinese railways as far back as 1905, and it has been admitted by the Washington Government that American financiers at that time evinced no desire to do so; and not until May of this year, when the prolonged negotiations between the British, French and German groups had reached a settlement was anything heard of a desire on the part of American financiers to participate. Then came the entirely unexpected announcement that a protest against the agreement had been entered by the American Government because American financiers had not been invited to participate. It was at the same time announced that a syndicate of financiers had been formed in America with the definite object of investing capital in China. For something like three months it had been public knowledge that negotiations in reference to the Hankow railway loan were in progress, yet there was no indication on the part of America of a wish to participate. That indication came only after the negotiations had been concluded, and then it took the form of a protest against the settlement. "The Times" correspondent at Peking has taken the view that it is regrettable that the British and American Governments, in view of the obligations contracted by the Chinese in 1903, did not communicate with each other at an earlier stage of the negotiations and thus prevent the difficulty. We cannot see that any blame attaches to the British Government in this connection. The duty of communicating devolved upon America, who had declined to avail herself of the opportunities which offered in 1905, and had given no indications of her desire to participate in the loans since arranged. The American Minister in Peking must have been well aware of all that was doing in this connection, and no doubt kept his Government informed on the subject. Moreover, so long as the American financiers evinced no desire to invest capital in China it does not seem to us that it devolved upon the Chinese Government to inform America of every opportunity that offered whereby the obligations of 1903 could be fulfilled. What we do not understand about the message published to-day is the statement that "the telegram is directly due to the intrigues of the German Asiatische Bank, whose influence over the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank is injurious to British interests." It seems a serious libel on the British Bank to say that it is influenced by German intrigue, and we shall await the full text of Dr. MORRISON's message for some proof of this remarkable assertion. Meanwhile we can

only speculate as to the suggestion which the message conveys. Is it that there was an intrigue on the part of the German financial institution to exclude American participation and that the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank was influenced into acquiescence? Against this view we now see Germany welcoming the advent of America in the field with open arms, with no less eagerness than the British have shown. Indeed the statement has been published in a German paper that it is due to German friendship that America has been able to join the combine, and President TAFT is said to have admitted this in an effusively grateful letter, while, from the British point of view, Dr. MORRISON has stated that "it is most desirable that arrangements should be made by which the combine becomes extended to the American group of banks on a footing of equality," in order to counteract German influence. The underlying motive of Dr. MORRISON's telegram evidently is a keen sense of disappointment over the far-reaching advantages which Germany has lately acquired in the Yangtze Region, and the conviction that more aggressively British action on the part of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, backed by the British Government, would have led to the discomfiture of German ambitions and maintained the predominance of British influence in this region. We had occasion to remark a few days ago that the operations of State Banks cannot be rivalled by private finance either in regard to promptitude or daring; and herein, it seems to us, lies the whole explanation and difficulty of the question.

THE SPANISH MILITARY OPERATIONS.

(Daily Press, July 27th.)

The striking feature of the fighting which is taking place between the Spaniards and the Moors in the North of Africa is that the populace in Spain is opposed to the carrying on of the war, and the absolute censorship on news of the campaign has probably been imposed in consequence. Where Spanish rights are being infringed by the Moors it might well have been thought that the country generally would have supported the Government in sending reinforcements to aid the troops at present in Melilla, and when that support is withheld it may be considered that it is due to political influences or to some more urgent reason. Whatever the explanation it does not emerge from the meagre messages to hand. Historically, the conflict is interesting as being a renewal of the hostilities which were once waged between the Spaniards and the Moors, though it is safe to say that the old-time jealousy no longer exists. As "the glory that was Greece and the grandeur that was Rome" passed, so did the power and civilisation that was Moorish. Not only were the Moors driven out of Spain, but they were gradually shorn of their territory. Their power waned, until now the Empire is reduced to something like its original limits. But Spain, not content with its victory over the invader, seized portions of Moroccan territory, and the European Power occupies positions at Ceuta, Melilla, Peñon, Alhucemas, and Chaferinas Islands on the North Coast of Morocco. These places are no doubt useful to Spain, but it stands to reason that their retention by her must be a fruitful source of dispute between the two countries. Ceuta is a seaport of some note directly opposite Gibraltar. Peñon is described as a fortress, and Melilla we know is a penal settlement. In fact,

most of the African possessions are used as convict stations. We may also recall in this connection that in 1860 by the Treaty of Wad Ras the Sultan of Morocco granted the claim of Spain to the small territory of Santa Cruz de Mar Pequeña, south of Mogador, but Spain has not yet taken advantage of the concession, possibly because it would inevitably lead to trouble.

Why the present "little war"—which unhappily seems to be developing into an important campaign—should be unpopular in Spain is not very evident. It cannot be due to a sentiment that war *per se* is wrong. The teaching of Tolstoy has not taken such a hold on the Spanish as to account for the general aversion to the present fighting, but it may be that the people remember the disaster which overtook their troops and their navy little more than ten years ago when they were made to part with the last of their great over-sea possessions. That experience has doubtless chastened them and made them realise their unpreparedness for war. Still, we do not suppose the nation has had any doubt of the result of the clashing of arms between Spain and Morocco. The populace may have come to the conclusion that the game is not worth the candle, that the rupture will mean not a series of pitched battles, but the opening of a guerilla warfare in which the European troops will be harassed and the Spanish possessions continually menaced. On the other hand, it is difficult to imagine a proud people like the Spaniards calmly accepting an affront to their prestige. We should rather expect them to insist on their rights being maintained and to demand that the war be conducted with the vigour and completeness necessary to ensure success. Yet all the telegrams to date emphasise the fact that the campaign is unpopular, so much so that it is believed that the reverses suffered by the Spanish troops are being minimised. Until more information comes to hand it is impossible to appreciate this attitude of the people. It is in striking contrast to what took place twenty years ago. Then the aggression of the unruly Riff tribes upon the Spanish outposts around Melilla led to a conflict in which the Spanish forces at first lost heavily. The disaster fired public opinion and the Press called so loudly for revenge that the Government sent to Melilla no less a personage than the famous MARSHAL CAMPOS, at the head of 29 generals and 25,000 men. The Sultan of Morocco lost no time in getting the Riff tribes under control, and MARSHAL CAMPOS made a treaty in which he obtained ample redress and the promise of an indemnity of £800,000, which Morocco punctually paid. No matter how unpopular the *casus belli*, it might be reasonably thought that the country would not withhold the support necessary to carry the war to a satisfactory conclusion. Unless there is something radically wrong, the mere fact that war has been embarked upon should unite all classes, and when that unanimity is not being shown it may be feared that Spain is, in common parlance, in for a bad time. Internal dissensions will make it difficult, if not impossible, for her to concentrate as she ought on the Moroccan coast, and the result will be another humiliation for Spain. So far there has been no estimate of the number of troops participating in the recent fighting. Spain is understood to have 6,000 troops in North Africa, but as all her other African possessions are fortified, it may be presumed that she has little more than a thousand men in Melilla to hold the place against the Moorish hordes. The Moors are fine soldiers. Possessing the fanaticism and fatalism of the Mohammedans, they

show a contempt for death which renders them the most formidable of foes. Moreover, they are not without training, and as they have acquired a sort of taste for blood by reason of the civil war which last year devastated their land and gave them a new Sultan, the inference is justified that they will not be easily quelled. When it is remembered, too, that the Sultan can muster somewhere about 80,000 troops, that he has some artillery and a disciplined cavalry, it will be evident that Spain has entered on something more than border skirmishing, and her resources will be taxed before she comes out of it well. It may be the general opinion that the places indicated being merely used as penal settlements are not worth the trouble of holding against the Moors, or it may be that there is no confidence in the present administration, but, whatever the cause, there can be little doubt that with the country and the Government at loggerheads and fighting at Melilla developing into a serious warfare the prospect for Spain is anything but rosy. Her troubles are by no means over, but good may come out of evil, and if they result in arresting the decline into which the country has fallen, and rouse her to emulate her brilliant past, Spain will have cause to rejoice as she once more takes her place among the leading nations of the world. But will it be so? The temperament which characterised the Bourbons still persists. Does Spain ever learn?

AERONAUTICS.

(Daily Press, 28th July.)

Great Britain has ceased to be an island, so our French neighbours are telling us now that M. BLERIOT has made a successful flight in his aeroplane across the Straits of Dover. Our geography primers and our lexicons which tell us that "an island is a piece of land entirely surrounded by water" will have to be altered. We shall have to forget what the poets have told us about Britain being

a snug little Island!

A right little, tight little island.

Not yet, however, are the educational authorities of Great Britain likely to withdraw the present text books on geography from the schools. One sparrow does not make a summer, and one aeroplane crossing the English Channel does not form such a bridge as warrants the announcement that Great Britain has ceased to be an island. Nevertheless the fact that an aeroplane has successfully crossed the Channel for the first time marks an epoch in the history of aeronautics which naturally evokes jubilation among the growing number of men who are now devoting their serious attention to the problem of aerial flight, and the fact that the first man to accomplish the feat of crossing the channel is a French inventor is sufficient to account for the extraordinary popular outburst of enthusiasm which REUTER tells us of in France. Though the telegram does not mention it, we assume that M. BLERIOT in making the attempt was competing for a prize of £1,000 offered by the proprietors of the London "Daily Mail." Mr. LATHAM had recently made an unsuccessful attempt in his monoplane, but came to grief by an inexplicable stoppage of the motor before he had left the French coast more than six miles behind. When the motor stopped he was at a height of a thousand feet and travelling at the rate of forty-five miles an hour, but the impact when he fell was gentle and the machine floated like a cork, the occupant not even getting wet. We do not know the conditions attaching to this

competition, but in view of the recent performances of the Zeppelin and the Parseval airships, a flight of twenty or thirty miles cannot now be regarded as a very astonishing feat. It probably is a most notable performance for an "aeroplane," for we read of the New York Aero Club offering for competition recently a trophy for a flight of five-eighths of a mile. It was won on the 5th inst. by Mr. GLEN H. CURTIS, who is described as "the WRIGHT Brothers' most formidable rival." He flew a mile and three-quarters on his aeroplane at an elevation of 30 feet, and maintained a speed of 3.3 miles an hour. M. BLERIOT, who crossed the Channel, claims to have covered a distance of thirty miles in thirty-five minutes. Passing from aeroplanes to airships we may note that at the beginning of the present month the airship Parseval II. started from Tegel, near Berlin, rose first to a height of 4,500 feet, and then dropped to 450 feet, at which height it remained until it had passed over Saxony, when it rose to a height of 9,000 feet in order to pass over Eger and Franzensbad. When the airship eventually landed the occupants had used up only half their ballast, and had enough fuel left to enable them to cross the Alps. As, however, they had set out only with the idea of giving the crew a trial run, they decided to terminate the trip at the end of the eighteen hours. Such demonstrations as these leave no room for doubt that there is a great future for airships, but speculation at present is confined largely to their military uses. We notice that Colonel MASSEY, who is prominently identified with aeronautical experiments in England, spoke recently of flights of 300 miles an hour being a possibility of the near future. Every modern army is probably concentrating its attention on means of meeting the new danger. Special high-angle, long-range ordnance is being constructed to act as airship destroyers and the use of powerful rockets in the hands of detachments moving in light motor-cars has been suggested, as once a rocket penetrates a gas bag spontaneous combustion would ensue; while flying machines, though much harder to hit, on account of their smaller size and superior turn of speed, are, it is suggested, undoubtedly more vulnerable to shrapnel or musketry fire. But the use of either would be out of the question if flight at the rate of three hundred miles, or even half that speed, has to be reckoned upon. When experienced officers tell us that it would not even now be difficult to drop explosives from any given object from an aeroplane, and that in the near future probably it will be possible to trace the movements of submarines from a dirigible balloon, we can see no limits to "the science of war."

CHINA AND THE OPIUM QUESTION.

(Daily Press, 29th July)

About ten days ago we reproduced from a London contemporary a brief summary of Sir ALEXANDER HOSIE's third general report on the Opium Question in China. We are now in receipt of the full report, which we observe was forwarded to the Foreign Office as long ago as the 14th November last year, two months and a half before the International Commission commenced its sittings at Shanghai, but the leisurely methods of the Foreign Office apparently did not admit of this Report being presented to Parliament until the month of June—six months after it was received.

Sir JOHN JORDAN, in transmitting the Report, informed the Secretary of State that the periodical reports which reach the Legation on the subject, and on which this series of general reports is largely based, are often of a conflicting nature, and the oral testimony of travellers and missionaries, many of them men of wide experience and honestly anxious to arrive at the truth, differs so widely as to make one diffident about expressing any decided opinion. But the general impression which His EXCELLENCY says he derives from a study of all the available evidence is that, considering the magnitude of the task, the success which has attended the movement is as great as could reasonably be expected. Sir ALEXANDER HOSIE himself says that there can be no doubt that, in spite of the absence of any well-organised uniform scheme for accomplishing the task, much is being done, and in some cases perhaps too much is being attempted in too short a time with the machinery available for the purpose.

The Report covers twenty-one foolscap-folio pages of closely printed information dealing with the measures adopted in the various parts of the empire for the suppression of the habit of opium smoking and for diminishing the cultivation of the poppy, and there are some observations on what is being done to replace the revenue which the suppression of opium (native and foreign) will necessarily cut off. Although China considers the abandonment of that revenue of no account in comparison with the eradication of the opium evil, the sacrifice, as Sir ALEXANDER HOSIE says, is a heavy one. Certain steps have, however, already been taken to make good the loss. Increased taxation of land under poppy is only a temporary relief, and will cease with the suppression of cultivation; but in Szechuan the Provincial Government, under instructions from the Board of Finance, has imposed a tax of three cash a catty on the salt production of that province, and an additional tax of five cash per catty on salt exported from Szechuan to Hupeh. Sir ALEXANDER HOSIE says the annual revenue derivable from this new tax should fall little short of two million dollars. Similar steps have been taken in other provinces; so it is not alone the farmer but the people as a whole who bear the burden of the sacrifice of revenue which the suppression of opium involves. Wheat, beans and other winter crops are taking the place of the poppy. The change cannot be a profitable one for the farmer. As the Report points out, the advantage of opium production, in addition to the higher value of the harvest per acre, is the portability of the drug in a country where lack of means of communication bars access to a market. "One man may carry a load of opium for hundreds of miles over atrocious roads to a market without unduly raising its cost, whereas grain or other produce of the same value could not be moved many miles and yield a profit; and it is to the development of rail-ways that the cultivator must look to enable him to grow and dispose of the crops best suited to climate and soil. Where communication is easy and cheap the farmer will lose little by abandoning the poppy." Where it is not—and that covers practically all the principal opium growing districts—we take it that the outlook for the farmer is not pleasant for him to contemplate. The Central Government continues to be sincere and zealous in its crusade, but now that the International Commission is over we do not seem to hear so much of the activity of the Provincial Authorities as we did before the Commission met. The best test of China's

sincerity is to be found not in the edicts and proclamations insisting on the suppression of the traffic, but in the way she meets the economic and financial difficulties which the enforcement of the fiat entails. That story has yet to be told in the Reports, for the test grows the more severe with each year's development of the plans of the Government, and, like the BRITISH MINISTER, one may therefore still be diffident about expressing a very decided opinion on the subject.

HONGKONG AND THE NAVY LEAGUE.

(Daily Press, 30th July.)

Reports in the Shanghai newspapers of a meeting of the Shanghai Branch of the British Navy League serve to remind us that Hongkong is reputed to have a strong branch of this League. We believe we are correct in saying, however, that no meeting of members has been called for three or four years past, and presumably members have only been reminded of their connection with this important organisation by the regular receipt of the *Navy League Journal* and also probably by a request for the payment of the annual subscription. Whether the latter request has been more punctually complied with in Hongkong than it appears to have been in Shanghai is a matter on which the Hon. Treasurer and the Committee of the League are best informed, but we believe there is room for improvement here as in Shanghai in this connection. It is satisfactory to know, however, that, unlike the Branch at Shanghai, the Hongkong Branch has no overdraft at the bank. There are upwards of 400 members on the books of the Hongkong branch, and when the subscriptions now in arrear are paid up the Branch should have a substantial balance in hand. Since 1906, when the new scheme of national defence was inaugurated, following upon the Alliance with Japan, members of the Navy League, both here and in Shanghai, appear to have ceased to take the same amount of interest in the British naval position in the Far East as they did before the Alliance. Though the British Fleet in Far Eastern waters has been reduced from four battleships and ten cruisers to no battleships and six cruisers and some additions to the smaller craft, the Alliance has given to the British communities a stronger sense of security so far as the safety of their lives and the protection of their property is concerned. But at the Shanghai meeting Mr. LEVESON reminded the audience that China is a country where "face" and prestige have a very large and practical value, and he thought the Navy League Branches in this part of the world might at least express the hope that our fleet should be in size and standing as preponderately superior to that of the other great European Powers as are our numbers, our interests and our wealth. In many ways he admitted that we had this preponderate superiority, but he pointed out that the new flagship of another Power was unquestionably a stronger unit than Admiral LAMBTON's flagship, and he made the suggestion that the Shanghai Branch should combine with the Hongkong Branch in making representations to London accompanied by a strong plea that a new armoured cruiser may be sent to China of undoubted superiority over the French, or the German or the Italian, or any other flagship in the Far East, in addition to and not in substitution of the "King Alfred." Another suggestion made by Mr. LEVESON had reference to the recently reported intention of the Admiralty to send a battleship fleet

on a visit to Australia next year. "It would not seem to be out of place," he said, "if in this also we combine with Hongkong in expressing the hope that this fleet, if it does start, will visit also British possessions in the Straits, and include Hongkong, Shanghai and Weihaiwei in its programme." Such a visit, he added, would not be altogether one of show, and its effect upon the Chinese Government and upon the Chinese nation generally would be a strong, a useful and a good one. "If carried to a conclusion, that is to say, if it were to include the outpost, Weihaiwei, it would go some way in a direction which I think we of this Branch all desire; I mean in a direction of displaying the importance of holding on to Weihaiwei, of making use of Weihaiwei, and constituting Weihaiwei into a permanent sanatorium for our Navy and for ourselves in the Far East." We draw the attention of the members of the Hongkong Branch of the Navy League to these suggestions as being questions of local interest and importance well worthy the attention of the Branch and affording an adequate excuse for the holding of a general meeting of members at an early date. But for this report from Shanghai with its one or two references to the continued existence of the Hongkong Branch, we might have been in danger of writing that the Branch in this Colony had ceased to exist. It is about time it gave some evidence to the public that it is still a live institution.

TYPHOON SIGNALS.

(Daily Press, July 31st.)

The enormous losses entailed on the shipping of the port by the succession of warnings we have had from the Hongkong Observatory this month, of typhoons within a three hundred mile radius of the Colony, naturally give rise to much questioning as to whether all these warnings have been really justified, for, fortunately, none of the reported typhoons have come sufficiently near to the Colony to cause any alarm, and on many occasions the harbour remained as calm as a mill pond during the whole time the alarming signals were up. Yet the hoisting of a typhoon signal—often when it is only a red one—suffices to bring all the work of loading and discharging ships to a standstill, for lighters and sampans move off to the typhoon refuge with the utmost expedition, and remain there until the lowering of the warning signals indicates that the danger has passed. Meanwhile the steamers in the harbour are lying idle with steam up all the time, and in the case of some demurrage is incurred. Steamers which are ready to leave do not go out when the Observatory warns them of a typhoon in their track, and two or three times this month as many as eighteen or twenty steamers have been lying at one time in the Kowloon Bay waiting to proceed. "Traveller" was guilty of no exaggeration when he wrote of the enormous losses suffered by the steamship companies; but the most annoying part of the business is that we cannot be sure, in the face of "Traveller's" experience, that the warnings which have involved these losses have been justified by actual meteorological conditions. "Traveller," who, we may say, is no griffin, told us that the ship on which he was travelling passed up between the Paracel Islands and the Macclesfield Bank on the night of the 25th-26th inst. and had "a most delightful run up to Hongkong, with beautiful, clear, sunny weather, and light easterly breezes, gradually backing to N.W. as we neared the islands, and a sea that would have been

perfectly smooth but for a slight swell from N.E. that furrowed its surface." The surprise of those on the ship can be imagined when they entered the harbour and saw a signal indicating a typhoon to the S.E. beyond 300 miles, and travelling N.W., and the harbour already clear of cargo boats, the signal having driven them to the typhoon anchorage. The experience of the Colony during the past month makes pertinent the inquiry as to whether, in the words of "Traveller," the shipping lying in the waters of this Colony is efficiently warned about the approach of storms that are likely to endanger water-borne property, without unnecessarily impeding the work of discharging and loading the ships? We take it upon ourselves to say that the Government recognises that there is much room for improvement in this respect, for nearly a year ago His Excellency informed the Legislative Council that the Commander-in-Chief of the South China Station had consented to communicate by wireless telegraphy any atmospheric disturbances which His Majesty's warships cruising in surrounding waters might be able to report. As, however, His Majesty's warships are usually in Northern waters during the typhoon season, this arrangement is not likely to materially increase our knowledge of the direction and course of typhoons or add to the reliability of the warnings signalled from the Observatory. But when this matter was under consideration it was recognised as "a great desideratum" that there should be an observation station somewhere to the south east, the direction from which most typhoons come, and His Excellency accordingly passed on to the Governor-General of the Philippine Islands a suggestion for the establishment of a wireless station at Santo Domingo de Basco. The Governor-General of the Philippines was much impressed by the suggestion, and we think we are correct in stating that the Appropriation for the current year passed by the Assembly includes a vote for the establishment of this station. We believe the Hongkong Observatory is already in regular communication with nearly all the places named in "Traveller's" letter, with the notable exception of Pratas Island, and our correspondent particularly emphasises the necessity for wireless communication with this island, which he refers to as being "ideally situated between Hongkong and Manila as a half-way house from which those in the Hongkong Observatory might be informed accurately as to the meteorological conditions prevailing in the sea to the South East of the Colony." Our correspondent may not be aware that this is fully recognised by the Colonial Government, which, a few months ago, approached the Chinese Government through His Majesty's Minister at Peking with a view to the establishment of a wireless telegraph station on the island. The experiences of the past few weeks have abundantly proved the need of the station, and we may be sure His Excellency will do all that lies in his power to secure its early establishment. Not until this proposal and the station at Santo Domingo "materialise" can we expect to hear in the Colony less grumbling—justifiable grumbling—regarding the unnecessary typhoon alarms from which the harbour work of this Colony so seriously suffers at the present time.

The authorities at Seoul suppressed the issue of the *Korea Daily News* on the 18th inst. because it contained an article "on the question of jurisdiction which might excite the popular sentiment."

RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

The proximity of so many typhoons is not without its advantages. They keep the atmosphere cool, and anything that gives relief from the summer heat is not to be despised. At the same time, I must admit that we would not object if the same result could be achieved by other means. Old residents—and we have a few among the European community—declare that they have never known such a cool summer. Of course we are not out of the wood yet.

To treat a grave subject in a light-hearted manner is perhaps not very becoming in the ordinary person, but it is different when the Sanitary Board do so. Then it is right. Then one may be amusing without being considered guilty of unseemly behaviour. Such, at any rate, is the impression which might naturally be formed on reading the report of the last meeting. On that occasion members worried over the size of monuments and over the qualifications for interment in the twenty-year section of the Colonial Cemetery, and did not seem to realise how entertaining they were.

In the first place, it has to be remembered that the chief qualification for burial in the twenty-year section is to be dead, and that being so, it occurs to me that it is preferable to be a live griffin rather than a candidate for the doubtful honour of being buried with the Colonial residents. I am willing to accept the Hon. Mr. Hewett's statement as to the honour of being buried among those old residents, but it seems to me that the distinction is not worth seeking. As to putting large tombstones over the burying place, it reminds me that I have heard it alleged that monuments were not always designed to chronicle the virtues of the deceased, but were erected in order to make sure that the defunct would not rise again and worry his friends.

Can storied urn or animated bust
Back to its mansion call the fleeting breath?
Can honour's voice provoke the silent dust?
Or flattery sooth the dull cold ear of death?

The discussion reminds me of an epitaph at the chancel door of the Church in my native village. The chancel door is but a dozen feet from the principal entrance gates to the Churchyard, and the epitaph reads:—

Here lie I at the chancel door,
Here lie I because I'm poor;
The farther in the more you pay,
Here lie I as warm as they.

As I have crossed the water of the harbour and looked at the two cruisers flying the flag of Portugal, the thought has crossed my mind that Macao does not seem to gain any great advantage from the *Vasco da Gama* and the *Patrie* being in the East. However, remembering that all of us are griffins in the Orient in comparison with the Portuguese, I did not think it proper to comment on the fact. It seemed too much like attempting to teach the grand maternal relative to suck eggs. But apparently our Chinese friends have not such scruples. One sends me a letter which I have much pleasure in quoting in full:

Macau, 21st July, 1909.

DEAR SIR.—My look see you write *Daily Press* good ting, people can sabe news, my send you some Macau news, suppose good you can puttee paper.

Vely soon one more Portuguese Drednot come take care Macau, *Vasco da Gama* and *Paria* have come keep Macau from pirates. You see all this Drednots come take care Macau go stop Hongkong, how fashion? 40 miles so long way and Macau Telegraph Office shut up 5 o'clock evening till 8 o'clock morning tim, how fashion can take care Macau? Suppose pirates come Macau night tim, low water, and Drednot *Rio Lima* stuck in the mud, how fashion can do? my no sabe.

Some toke my all Drednots must go Hongkong show Chinese big Mandarin of Delamentation pidgin, that Portuguese have got big ship, can fight.

My hear also, suppose the pidgin of delamentation no good for Chinese. Canton self-government men will show how with 4 Custom launch only, Macau night tim, suppose no can finish job before 8 o'clock

morning tim, they cut telegraph line to Hongkong, Portuguese Drednot no can come Macau.

You excuse my no can rite english proper, my can rite portuguese well because my have buy portuguese Mandarin post, pay Governor too much money and have go school before, (you see my card can sabe), my now fear suppose Self-Government sabe my belong portuguese man, he cut my head, my run Hongkong and chinchin you take care for my.

My liky my friend Hongkong side sabe this pidgin, he can come chop Macau, take he wife and family go Hongkong, suppose this Delamentation pidgin no good for Chinese.

My small boy Allan can sabe now rite machine pen, now he no go school because school shut up, Governor no got money pay Master, he Bank too much poor, no much business, Macau—no opium go Australia, all fantan money pay too much expense. Drednots stop Hongkong, ahyah! how fashion? no can make pidgin Macau, all man must go Hongkong, Singapore, Saigon make money too muchy trub.

Goodbye you, and too much chinchin you.

My send you my card, no show any man, please.—Yours respectfully. * * *

From my point of view his postscript is not the least valuable part of the letter. He adds: "When you come Macau come and see my, and take some good proper Portuguese Port Wine, no all same English Port Wine, or if you no like my give you good Spanish Sherry more better English Sherry, any ricsha cooly sabe my house."

The symbols of the street names in Shaui-kwan must sound as pleasant to the inhabitants as the realities would be. Here is a list, taken from the *Gazette*, of some of the principal thoroughfares:—

Tai Kat Street (Great Luck Street).
Tai Cheong Street (Great Prosperity Street).
Tai Foo Street (Great Wealth Street).
Tai Hong Street (Great Comfort Street).
Tai Ning Street (Great Tranquillity Street).
Tai On Street (Great Happiness Street).

One would like to know what Government official has been giving play to a light fancy. The Colonial Secretary is too busy, I know. The Colonial Treasurer is in the throes of the next estimates. Surely it must be —? But I don't think I should mention his name. He might be modest over his work.

"Be good, sweet maid, and let who will be clever," is advice which His Excellency the Governor evidently likes to see passed on. He, or rather Lady Lugard, has offered a prize for the girl in the Italian Convent School who each year distinguishes herself for unselfishness, integrity and self-reliance, and I must confess to liking a competition of this sort better than the struggle of wits for the highest scholastic honours. It will help to make our girls sweet, refined women, instead of developing into blue stockings.

I see the Rev. F. B. Meyer has been taken to task for his impressions of Penang which he sent to the well-known Nonconformist organ, the *British Weekly*, and which are stated to contain not only exaggerations of existing conditions but gross misstatements. If the reverend gentleman could say such nasty things about a respectable place like Penang, I shudder to think what he has to say about Hongkong.

RODERICK RANDOM.

The British Consul at Nanking writes:—"In my report for last year I alluded to the formation of Chinese limited liability companies for waterworks, cigarette factory, electric tramway, woollen factory, and the like. Another company was started during the year for electric lighting. The electric tramway scheme has been superseded by the City Railway, which is a Government undertaking; but the fact that another year has passed without any apparent progress in the other projects emphasises my previous remarks as to the difficulty experienced by all such companies in finding capital. Foreign shareholders are strictly excluded, and the vagueness of company law in China makes Chinese capital distrustful."

HONGKONG.

Thirty-four undesirables reached the port yesterday from Saigon.

Mr. R. O. Hutchison has been appointed a member of the Board of Examiners, vice Mr. J. Dyer Ball, I.S.O., retired.

Mr. T. L. Perkins, executive engineer in the Public Works Department, left by the *Segura* on twelve months' leave of absence.

A Chinese boy was brought before Mr. Hazeland at the Magistracy on July 27 charged with having handled flowers in the Public Gardens and was fined \$2.

The appearance of Kowloon thoroughfares is being improved. The grass-grown roads and footpaths are being stripped of their green covering and look rather better now.

Mr. E. Ralphs has been appointed to act as headmaster of Queen's College with effect from the 5th instant. Mr. Dealy is acting as Director of Education during the absence of Mr. Irving.

The *Gazette* announces that His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Lieutenant N. C. S. Simson, Hongkong and Singapore battalion R.G.A., to be his extra aide-de-camp, and to act as his private secretary.

Among the passengers who left by the *Empress of India* on Saturday was Mr. J. McCaffery, who for the past two years has been Electrical Engineer at the Naval Yard. He has been transferred to Sheerness. His successor is Mr. E. Williams.

We learn that Captain Somerville has been transferred from the command of the s.s. *Taming* to the *Fatshan*, Captain Lloyd having been retired on pension. Captain Somerville, who was one of the most popular skippers on the Hongkong-Manila run, is succeeded by Captain Pennefather.

A Chinese married woman attempted to commit suicide by drowning on July 29th afternoon. She jumped from the Canton steamers' wharf into the harbour, but three wharf coolies leaped after her. Two of them were good swimmers and were able to support her until a boatman came to their assistance, when she was taken ashore. Yesterday she appeared before Mr. Hazeland at the Magistracy on a charge of attempting to commit suicide, but she was discharged with a caution.

At the Magistracy on July 31 a Chinese woman was fined \$50 and ordered to enter into a bond of \$200 for having assaulted a nine years' old servant girl. The child, who had been purchased last year for \$140, was found by her mistress with a water melon in her possession, which the woman thought she had stolen. She beat the girl with firewood, inflicting bruises all over her body and head. The little girl, who seemed to enjoy her stay at the Central Police Station, did not relish the prospect of returning to her mistress. However, she was sent to the Registrar-General for inquiries to be made.

The name of Mr. W. W. Whetton has been added to the list of authorised architects. Mr. Whetton is a specialist in concrete construction, who has had a considerable experience in this class of work both in England and America. He has just been in the latter country prior to his arrival here, and has made a special study of all the most up to date methods. Mr. Whetton has joined the staff of the Green Island Cement Company, Ltd., and he will be available for consultation on the subject of concrete work by anyone using the Company's cement.

A curious coincidence took place at Quarry Bay on Monday. A Chinese who had been seen entering the foremen's quarters at Tai-koo Dock was arrested with a quantity of clothing in his possession. He was taken to the Police Station, and while there a report was received from a European that some articles of clothing belonging to him had been stolen, as well as some belonging to his boy. It was found that these in the possession of the thief corresponded with the list of those stolen. The thief, however, had to answer an additional charge to that of theft. He was alleged to have bitten the finger of the Indian who arrested him. For the first offence he was sentenced by the Magistrate to six weeks' imprisonment and six hours stocks and for the second to two months' hard labour.

A drowning fatality in the New Territory has been reported to the police. A contractor's coolie who takes out provisions to the Indians in the New Territory went in bathing in the Sam Chun river on Sunday. Apparently he over-estimated his abilities as a swimmer, as he found himself weak in deep water and unable to make the bank. He sank and was drowned.

A Chinese was at the Magistracy on July 26 sentenced to two months imprisonment on each of two charges of obtaining goods by false pretences. He forged an order for wood on the Lun Yik firm, and presenting it at the shop on the Praya East on the 20th inst. obtained 2 pieces of wood. He tried the same on the 22nd, when he got nine pieces of timber, the total value of the two lots being \$114.81. Not satisfied with this he made another attempt on Saturday to get two pieces, but he was arrested and punished as stated.

The high water in the Yangtze and the heavy rains, says a Hankow contemporary, are jointly responsible for the telegraph lines at numerous places having given way, owing to boats and junks running up against the wires and breaking the poles. This has been the case at several places between Hankow and Shanghai, and has naturally occasioned some dislocation of the general foreign telegram correspondence, it being necessary to divert the bulk of the telegrams over other routes. The same is the case on the Western lines, which between the towns of Sientaochen and Shasi are submerged for a number of li.

With a view to placing the botanical resources of the Botanical and Forestry Department as far as possible at the service of the mercantile community of Hongkong, His Excellency has requested the Superintendent to collect all possible information upon the vegetable products of this neighbourhood or for which Hongkong is an emporium. This information is to refer chiefly to the raw or partly manufactured products exported from China and to include the locality of their production, quantity available, country to which exported, price at port of export and in the markets to which they eventually go.

We learn from the annual report of Mr. Dunn, the Superintendent of the Botanical and Forestry Department, that it was on the advice of Mr. Kershaw, of Macao, that the Hongkong Government suggested the slaughter of magpies as the best means of encouraging the increase of singing birds in the island. Mr. Kershaw's advice, Mr. Dunn says, was energetically followed during the year 1908. "During the six months ending in March, 1908, the Police alone accounted for 679 magpies shot in various parts of Hongkong and Kowloon (with the expenditure of only 750 cartridges); the total for the year under report was 594."

A regulation made by the Governor-in-Council under the Merchant Shipping Ordinance states that foreign soldiers or sailors, if unarmed, may be landed in the Colony within the harbour limits, without the prior consent of the Governor, provided that when it is desired to land a number of men exceeding one hundred, notice must be given to the Colonial Secretary, in order that all facilities of which local conditions admit may be given. Applications for permission to land armed parties in connection with funerals or to take part in public ceremonies of an exceptional nature will be addressed to the Governor through the Colonial Secretary. No application is necessary in the case of officers.

How contracts are carried out in Hongkong was illustrated on July 30 at the Magistracy. A contractor named Sung Lee had obtained the contract for repairing one of the forts at Lyemun, and he sublet it to Wam Kong Wing, who in turn sublet it to Cheung Tam Yan. Wan, it appeared, had been receiving advances from Sung Lee who, however, had not paid his met, and, knowing that he would be responsible sent his foreman and a clerk to see what was being done. The clerk and the foreman were threatened by the workmen, who said they would take their lives. On Thursday about thirty of Sung's coolies met at Shauiwan with the intention of having a fight, but Inspector Collet came on the scene and arrested the ringleader, who was yesterday placed before Mr. Hazeland at the Magistracy and fined \$200.

THE HONGKONG UNIVERSITY SCHEME.

Further papers on this subject have been issued containing a record of what has been done in connection with the University scheme.

The committee referred to in the memorandum entitled Hongkong University dated January, 1909, was appointed in that month and consists of the following gentlemen:—

Chairman.—The Governor. Members.—The Bishop of Victoria, the Colonial Secretary, the Colonial Treasurer, the Director of Public Works, the Registrar General, Hon. Sir P. Chater, Mr. Mody, the Director of Education, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Hon. Mr. Wei Yuk, Mr. Lau Chu Pak, and Mr. Clementi.

The Chinese members submitted the names of about 10 leading Chinese gentlemen (since increased by the addition of some others) to act as a sub-committee for the purpose of raising funds under the chairmanship of Dr. Ho Kai, G.M.G. This sub-committee has since held weekly meetings, and submitted various proposals which have been considered by the committee. They also made a very careful translation of the Governor's appeal into Chinese and printed 10,000 copies at their own expense for circulation. They formed corresponding committees for raising funds outside the Colony.

The subscriptions or promises towards the Endowment Fund are as follows at this date including a subscription (just announced) of Tls. 10,000 by the Chinese Government:

By Chinese residents of Hongkong	\$174,295	
By Ng Li ding transferred from Medical College	50,000	\$ 224,295
By Chinese residents in Saigon	39,000	
By "Newchwang" Guaranteed by Mr. Cheung Pat Sze from Weichow, etc.	1,450	
Contributed by the Chinese Government through H.M.'s Minister at Peking, Tls. 10,000	100,000	
Contributed by His Excellency the Viceroy of Canton	14,000	
By Messrs. J. Swire and Sons, £30,000; Taikoo Sugar Refining Co., £5,000; Ocean Steamship Company £5,000; at 1 9½ (rate of exchange at date of gift).	200,000	
By Mrs. Stokes	450,440	
	560	\$1,029,745

Replies to the Governor's letters have been received from His Excellency the Governor of Macao (7th April, 1909) promising every assistance in his power, and from His Excellency the Governor of the Straits Settlements (24th February, 1909) warmly approving the scheme and offering any assistance. In consequence of trade depression it was now, he said, a bad time for an appeal, but later on the Chinese in the Straits hope to give effectual assistance. His Excellency the Viceroy of India regretted the inability of the Indian Government to contribute. The Chairman, Shanghai Municipal Council, warmly approved the scheme and said he would reply later regarding contributions (9th February, 1909).

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.M.G., chairman of the Chinese sub-committee for collecting subscriptions, mentioned at a meeting of the Committee held on July 7th that he had received a letter from His Excellency Wu Ting Fang, Chinese Minister in Washington, warmly supporting the scheme and saying that the Chinese in the United States would raise funds. He had also just received a sum of \$1,450 as the first instalment of subscriptions from Newchwang, and had heard from Canton that the Chinese gentry and merchants had been invited by the high Provincial officials to a meeting to discuss means for raising subscriptions there.

RESOLUTIONS.

As many of the original resolutions are now out of date, and others had been amended, the following revised set is published with the approval of the Committee:—

1. That the generous offer of Mr. Mody to provide funds for the building of a University, and the site offered for the purpose by Government be accepted: and that the work be commenced as soon as an Endowment Fund yielding £6,000 per annum has been collected and

the designs have been approved by the committee and Mr. Mody.

2. That the custody of all University funds shall be in the hands of the Treasurer appointed by the committee, who, subject to the approval of the Committee, shall invest them in suitable securities.

3. That on the completion of the buildings the Government shall be moved to introduce an Ordinance in the Legislature of the Colony for the incorporation of the University of Hongkong.

4. That thereafter the Hongkong College of Medicine and the Technical Institute shall forthwith be incorporated in the University and their endowments transferred to it.

5. That when the University is incorporated by Ordinance, the following shall be admitted as under-graduates:—

- All who are at that date students of the College of Medicine, who shall enter with the seniority as to curriculum which they had attained in the College, with a minimum course of two years at the University.
- Such additional candidates as may have passed the Senior Oxford Local Examination, or other prescribed test, and concerning whose moral character and eligibility the Court are satisfied, provided that in the case of Chinese students a knowledge of classical or modern Chinese will be accepted in place of certain specified subjects.

6. That the constitution of the University shall be such as may be prescribed by Ordinance, but in order that the scheme for which public subscriptions are being invited may be sufficiently understood by subscribers the following constitution, subject to future modification, recommends itself to the committee as the general principle on which the management and control of the University should be conducted:—

Visitor.—That if a Royal Personage will consent to so honour the University he may be appointed Visitor.

Patrons.—That the Governor of the Colony (or in his absence the Officer Administering the Government) be the patron. The Governor in virtue of his office can at all times exercise a power of veto if he should disapprove of any decision of the Court, on the grounds that the interests of the Colony would be injuriously affected or the proposal was *ultra vires* or unconstitutional or for other good cause, but the Court may if they so desire appeal to the Secretary of State against the veto of the Governor. Additional patrons may be appointed on the recommendation of the Court approved by the Governor.

Chancellor.—The Governor (and in his absence the Officer Administering the Government) shall be chancellor.

Governing Bodies.—The designation, powers and functions of the Governing Bodies, shall be as follows:—

The "Court" shall have supreme control over the University.

The "Council" shall perform all executive duties under authority of the Court.

The "Senate" shall under the authority of the Council arrange the course of study and matters of interior economy and discipline.

They shall be constituted respectively as follows:—

The Court under the presidency of the chancellor shall consist of about 24 members in addition to such life members as may be created by the operation of resolution 9 and of such other life members as may be nominated by a two-thirds majority of the Court and approved by the chancellor. Life members will be entitled to vote.

The 24 members may probably consist of the following:—

The vice-chancellor elected by the professors from among the professorial staff.

Six officers of the Government holding their seals *ex officio* (probably the Chief Justice, Colonial Secretary, Registrar General, Director of Education, Principal Civil Medical Officer, and Director of Public Works). The two Bishops and the unofficial members of both Councils, together with two additional English members and six Chinese (additional to the two members of Council) to be nominated by the chan-

cellor. The last eight to hold office for three years, but to be eligible for nomination for a further period.

The Court will elect annually from its numbers a treasurer and honorary secretary, and also a pro-chancellor who will take the place of the chancellor in his absence.

The Council shall consist of about 17 or 18 members (including the pro and vice-chancellors) under the presidency of the chancellor, namely:—

Four of the Government official members of the Court (probably the Registrar General, Director of Education, Director of Public Works, and Principal Civil Medical Officer).

Four English (other than the above) and four Chinese Members of the Court elected by the Court.

Four professors elected by the Senate.

The Senate shall consist of all the professors of the University under the presidency of the vice-Chancellor.

7. That the fees charged to students shall not exceed \$300 per annum, the charges for maintenance being limited if possible to a like amount.

8. That if the scheme for a University should fail of realisation all subscriptions shall be returned to the donors.

9. That subscribers of \$500 and upwards will have their names inscribed on a tablet in the wall of the Hall of the University in order according to the amount given. Subscribers of \$10,000 to the Endowment Fund may have one scholar at a time at the University without payment of fees (or alternatively without payment for board) provided he is duly qualified by passing the entrance examination. The privilege lapses during any period that such free scholar is at the University. For each additional \$10,000 another scholar may be nominated on the same conditions up to a maximum of four: provided that the total number of scholars who are admitted without fees (or without payment for board) shall not at present exceed 50. A subscriber of \$50,000 shall in addition to the above be entitled to have a framed portrait or a bust of himself in the Hall of the University of such dimensions and so placed as the committee may determine. A subscriber of \$100,000 will in addition be made a life member of the Governing body. Any qualified donor who desires to exercise any or all of those privileges must do so at the time he gives his subscription. Any provincial city town or village in or out of China may exercise the like privileges so far as they are applicable, but the scholars can only be nominated by the properly accredited representatives of the subscribers.

On the death of a donor entitled to nominate one or more scholars under the above conditions, the right of nomination may be exercised by his legal heir or representative, provided that the name of such heir or representative shall be notified to the Court within a year of the death of the donor. Failing such notification the right of nomination shall lapse to the Court who may exercise it or not at their discretion.

10. That as at present advised the committee sees no objection to students of the University residing outside the precincts of the University in hostels established by religious bodies under supervision approved by the Court of the University, and subject to such regulations as the Court may prescribe. The committee is opposed to students of the University residing elsewhere than within the University or in an approved hostel.

11. That the first two faculties or chairs established at the University shall be for medicine and engineering, and that so soon as the funds of the University admit of the establishment of a chair or faculty preference shall be given to an Arts Course; and that in this course due provision shall be made to enable Chinese students to maintain and improve their knowledge of the Chinese language and of the literature of China.

12. That steps shall be taken forthwith to ascertain under what conditions any English University will be prepared to conduct the final examination of under-graduates of the Hongkong University and to confer their degrees upon them for such period as the Court may desire to avail themselves of this method. And also that steps shall be taken to ascertain under what conditions His Majesty in Council may be approached when the time comes, with any

prospect of success, with a petition for the grant of a Royal Charter.

13. That in passing the previous resolutions to give effect to the project of establishing a University in Hongkong the committee understands that the object of such a University will be to afford a higher education, more especially in subjects of practical utility, such as applied science, medicine, etc., on the lines of such universities as Leeds and Birmingham, and to confer degrees of a standard not inferior to those conferred by such universities in Great Britain; develop and form the character of students no less than their intellectual faculties; to offer equal facilities for students of all races; to extend the knowledge of the English language in the Far East; and to promote a good understanding with the neighbouring Empire of China.

With regard to the above resolutions the following statement was made by the Chairman, and recorded in the proceedings of the fourth meeting:

"Any decision taken or views recorded by the committee are subject to revision, either by the committee itself, in the light of further information, or later by the Legislative Council when the Ordinance setting up the University is introduced, or by the Governing Bodies when appointed."

LETTER FROM SIR ROBERT HART.

Among the correspondence published is the following letter from Sir Robert Hart:

38, Cadogan Place,

London, S.W., 28th June, 1909.

Dear Sir Frederick Lugard. Your note of the 26th May re University schemes has come and I reply briefly.

(a.) The "Emergency Committee" did not propose to establish a University, but to collect £100,000 for the support of existing centres, medical and literary.

(b.) Lord William Cecil and friends have been considering the advisability and possibility of creating a University: they asked my views and I said either assist existing schools to grow or go to China and sound for yourselves.

The Guildhall meeting had the first (a) in view and not the second (b).

(c.) Your Hongkong scheme is excellent and deserves the fullest support, and it promises much that will do real good. There is, however, room for the other proposals and the question is how to finance all three. The "Emergency" idea is not yet gathering much money; the other (b) proposal will not be usefully carried out unless Chinese official sympathy is secured; the (c) scheme (Hongkong) seems to have official and private sympathy and almost certainly in the matter of funds, and I hope it will go into operation soon and successfully. My own sympathies are with all three, for I think each, if carried out, will certainly be useful in its time and place, but I regard the Hongkong scheme as the most practically promising, and applied science will suit the Chinese requirements of the day; at the same time, character is of the utmost importance, and I am glad to see that all three schemes give that idea such prominence.

In these matters I am rather a "figured head" than a working man: my health having only been of a so-and-so kind since my return to England. I hope what I have said will suffice.—Yours sincerely,

ROBERT HART.

VICEROY CHANG'S SUPPORT OF THE SCHEME.

The Papers published include besides the letters from the Viceroy of Canton, of which summaries have previously been published, the following translation of a despatch from the Viceroy of Canton to the chief officials of the various Government Bureaux under his jurisdiction requesting them to meet and discuss means to raise subscriptions in aid of the Hongkong University Endowment Fund:—

Gentlemen.—I have the honour to acquaint you that sometime ago I received a letter from the Governor of Hongkong, Sir Frederick Lugard, informing me of a proposal to establish a University in Hongkong which, when founded, would devote special attention to professional and technical training, and would provide special facilities for students from the

interior of China. But as the initial cost and subsequent expenditure would be considerable he asked for my assistance and co-operation in raising the necessary funds. He also forwarded me a memorandum on the proposed scheme and other papers.

I have also received a joint communication from certain Hongkong Chinese merchants, Ho Kai, Wei Yuk and others couched in earnest terms praying for my support.

I have perused more than once all the documents which I have received from Hongkong relating to the proposed scheme. The project appears to have for its principal object the complete training of persons of ability who will be of real use to us in our industrial and commercial enterprises.

The teaching of applied science, including civil, mechanical and electrical engineering and surveying, meets the present and most urgent need of our country, and the institution of a faculty of medicine is most important as it works for the improvement of sanitation and the preservation of health.

In the Arts Course of the proposed University the literature of our country will not be neglected. The standard of its entrance and of its degrees and the quality of its training will differ in no respect from those of the British Universities. The scheme seems indeed to be excellently planned.

Moreover, I am pleased with the several advantages which, in my humble opinion, such a scheme offers.

Firstly.—Up to the present time our country has not a properly organised institution to impart a professional and technical training to our people, though the establishment of such an institution has long become an urgent necessity. The minds of most young men from noble or wealthy families are bent on official ranks and adverse to laborious studies so that they all turn their attention to the study of politics. Whereas ambitious youths of the poorer classes though willing to go through a course of professional and technical training, are in want of means and a suitable place for their training. Once the Hongkong University is established, the cost being moderate and the locality close at hand, it is possible for every Chinese youth to join it.

Secondly.—Since in China itself there is no such properly organised institution for professional and technical training, we are compelled to send our students thousands of miles away from their native land to Europe or America, where official supervision is rendered ineffectual and parental control nugatory. Besides in youth the character is not yet properly formed, and some of the students may, through idleness or through indulgence to excess in amusements, become lazy in their work, others from want of proper control and restraint drift into immoral and loose habits, and of late students residing abroad have caused us the greatest anxiety. On the other hand, Hongkong is so close to us that our young men who went there to study would be almost within sight and hearing of their superiors, parents and elders.

Thirdly.—In our country we have at present no specialists who have a profound knowledge of technical and scientific subjects, and whatever professors we may require have had to be engaged from abroad, and that merely on their reputation and without actual knowledge of their true qualities. As a rule scholars who have a good character and great learning are disinclined to accept our invitation and come to a distant land like China where the mode of living differs so much from that observed in the West. But in the Hongkong University the professors are to be engaged by the British themselves who have better and easier means of inquiry and of distinguishing between the properly qualified and the incompetent. They are sure not to permit a responsible position to be occupied by an inferior man and thus to tarnish the fair name of their institution. Those professors who have already gained a reputation will be glad to join the staff, Hongkong being a British Colony and the social conditions there similar to those to which they have been accustomed. With a properly qualified staff of professors we may look forward with assurance to the successful training of the students.

Fourth.—It costs many hundreds of dollars a year to maintain a student in Japan and many thousands to maintain one in a Western country. In both cases there must be added the very considerable expense of travelling there and back. The expenditure has taxed the resources of the different provinces to their uttermost, and great anxiety is felt as to the future. However, if our students could be sent to Hongkong instead, a great part of this expenditure would be saved.

Having these four advantages it seems to me that the establishment of a University in Hongkong has a most important bearing upon the professional and technical training of the people of China. A Parsee gentleman, Mr. Mody, out of fellow feeling for Asiaties, has generously given a large donation for the erection of buildings of the University. His munificence deserves every respect and praise. Is it not then our duty, officials and merchants alike, to join our efforts to co-operate and assist? With regard to the best means of raising subscriptions in aid of the project I should like to know whether we should memorialize the throne first or begin at once to invite subscriptions from the gentry and merchants of the province. I hope you will meet and discuss the matter together and return me an early reply.

A DISTINGUISHED VISITOR.

H.E. VICEROY CHANG.

On Friday His Excellency Chang Jen-Chun arrived in Hongkong en route for Nanking and was welcomed in a manner befitting his rank and dignity. Accompanied by H. E. Admiral Li Chun, Mr. Hsieh Yung-men, Commodore Lin, Mr. Wong Ming, and Mr. Wen Shih-chen, the ex-Viceroy of the Two Kwang Provinces delayed his departure from Canton for some hours, but having boarded the China Merchants Navigation Company's steamer *Hsin Ming* on Thursday night he and his suite reached Hongkong at eight o'clock yesterday morning. The steamer moored at the east Douglas buoy, kindly placed at the disposal of the distinguished visitors by Messrs. Douglas, Lapraik & Co., and simultaneously a salute was fired by H.M.S. *Tamar* and by the Portuguese gunboat *Vasco da Gama*. When the sounds of welcome had died away, the Customs launch *Kowloon* put in to Murray Pier, from which Captain Mitchell-Taylor, A.D.C., was taken aboard and conveyed to the China Merchant's steamer, where he tendered to the Viceroy the respects of H.E. the Governor. Later H.E. the Viceroy called on Commodore Lyon.

It was not until 12.30 p.m., however, that the Viceroy and his staff landed at Blake Pier. By that hour every approach was crowded by foreign and Chinese spectators, who appeared anxious to catch a glimpse of the man who had ruled the Two Kwang Provinces so capably during the past few years. Opposite Blake Pier a guard of honour from the Buffs' regiment was drawn up, in front of which stood a bearer holding aloft the regimental flag. As the Customs launch ran alongside the pier and the Viceroy stepped ashore, the band played the Chinese National Anthem. His Excellency, who was accompanied by Captain Mitchell-Taylor and his suite, and preceded by a bearer, who held aloft the emblem of his rank, then inspected the guard of honour. Afterwards he bowed to the sightseers with true Oriental grace, his retinue following suit in this direction, before they were all accommodated with chairs and escorted by a party of Indian police to Government House, where H.E. the Governor was to entertain them at tiffin.

The following gentlemen were invited to this function:—Commodore Lyon, H.E. Col. Darling, Hon. Mr. C. McL. Messer, Hon. Mr. P. N. H. Jones, Sir Paul Chater, Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett, Mr. Justice Gompertz, Hon. Mr. A. W. Brewin, Hon. Mr. F. J. Badeley, Hon. Dr. Ho kai, Hon. Mr. Wei Yuk, Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson, Hon. Mr. Murray Stewart, Hon. Mr. E. Osborne, Mr. D. R. Law, Mr. J. R. M. Smith, Mr. Harris, Sir Henry Berkeley, H. E. Kao Erh Chien, Capt. Wu Kwang-tung, Mr. Kwok Yik-tung, Mr. Chang kang-yue, Mr. Sin Tak-fan, Mr. Ho Tai-shing, Mr. Lau Chu Pak, Mr. Au Tak, Mr. Lau Yam-chun, Mr.

S. W. Tso, Lieut. Blanchflower, Capt. Stewart, and Capt. Armstrong, A. D. C. Mr. H. N. Mody and Mr. Li Sau-hin were unable to attend the luncheon owing to indisposition.

At 3.30 p.m. His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard accompanied the Viceroy and suite and other guests in specially decorated cars to Quarry Bay Dockyard, where, through the courtesy of Mr. D. R. Law, the distinguished visitor was enabled to witness the many different operations carried on there in full swing. His Excellency manifesting a lively interest in the various works. An interesting event in the afternoon programme was the reception given on board the *Chiyo Maru*, then in dock, by the Japanese Consul. The party, after partaking of Taikoo hospitality, eventually returned to Hongkong on board the *Victoria*.

AT THE CHINESE CLUB.

His Excellency later attended an afternoon tea party at the Chinese Club. Here the leading Chinese of the Colony assembled in large number to meet their distinguished countryman, and, as was to be expected, their welcome lacked nothing in cordiality. Elaborate decorations embellished the entrance and the interior, and he emblems employed set forth in flowery language their high appreciation of their guest and his many virtues and the joy of the members in welcoming him to Hongkong.

Besides His Excellency the Chinese merchants of Hongkong entertained four foreign secretaries, Admiral Li, Provincial Judge Chin, Salt Commissioner Ting, Delimitation Commissioner Ko, two judges, several prefects and several taotais, Mr. Harris, Commissioner of Customs at Kowloon, also being in attendance.

When all were seated.

Mr. LAU CHU PAK, who presided, said—Gentlemen,—you are aware the party given here to-day is specially to welcome His Excellency the Viceroy Chang, whose presence is a great pleasure to me as the Chairman presiding at this assemblage, and to you who take part in this function, inasmuch as we are honoured by the presence of the Imperial Commissioner Ko and other prominent Chinese officials. During the current year we have had four parties of this nature in this Club, but of these the present is the most memorable, because we have among us many of the brilliant stars of the greatest magnitude in South China, and their presence here makes the occasion quite unique. Among these stars, as you know there is one exceptionally brilliant and magnificent, and he is Chang Jen Chun the ex-Viceroy of the Two Kwang and the successor to the Viceroyship of the Liang Kiang. During his *regime* in the South he has spared no efforts to promote education, commerce and local industries. In short, where improvement could be effected for the welfare of the people and country, he has done his utmost to bring it about. For instance, His Excellency took a prominent part in supporting the proposal of establishing a University in Hongkong by helping to raise subscriptions therefor which amounted to more than \$200,000. By doing this he not only bettered the friendly relations between the British Empire and China, but has benefitted future generations of Chinese to a very appreciable extent. On the transfer of His Excellency to the Liang Kiang, the Cantonese of all classes feel that they have lost a good ruler, and will no doubt miss him as much as young children miss their mothers. It should be borne in mind, however, that like sunlight His Excellency is not only doing good work in one province but will continue to do so in another sphere. We wish the departing Viceroy every happiness, and a long and happy life in which he may continue to work for the benefit of his country and people.

Mr. LAU asked his hearers to support his speech by raising three cheers for His Excellency. Three hearty cheers followed.

His EXCELLENCY, in reply, said that this was the third time he had been appointed to Canton. On his third trip he had stayed two years as Viceroy, so the people of Kwangtung were old friends. He had always endeavoured to investigate the advantages and disadvantages of a place with a view to improvement. His object had ever been to develop his country's industries, enrich the people, to suppress rebels and robbers, to promote education in a prac-

tical way, and to deal faithfully with neighbouring Governments. Although this had been his policy, he had not done much in this direction, and now before he had completed his work he had to leave to succeed to the appointment of Viceroy at Nanking. He felt unworthy of the great praise which the people of Canton had bestowed upon him, and here in Hongkong he had received a hearty reception from his countrymen as well as a very flattering address. For all this kindness he was indebted to those present, and if it was ever in his power to return it he would do so. The people in China were now discussing the holding of an exhibition to promote industry and manufactures, and he felt sure that if this was properly conducted it would prove a great benefit. Hongkong was a place in which European and Chinese business men had much in common, and he thought the Chinese here were well versed in commercial affairs. He therefore hoped that although far away they would not forget him, and would render him advice and assistance in the promoting of this exhibition. (Applause.)

His EXCELLENCY dined with Delimitation Commissioner Ko at Glenealy in the evening, and at 10.30 p.m. he paid a visit to Mr. H. N. Mody at his residence in Conduit Road, that gentleman being too ill to wait upon the Viceroy.

His Excellency Chang Jen-Chun, who spent the night at Glenealy, the residence of His Excellency Kao Erh Chien, received numerous callers there on Saturday, among the number being the Governor. The distinguished visitor having expressed a wish to meet Mr. Mody, the father of the University scheme, arrangements were made with Sir Paul Chater for the introduction to be made at the residence of the latter, and about eleven o'clock His Excellency and his suite, with a number of other guests, arrived at Marble Hall, where Sir Paul and Mr. Mody received the party. After the formal presentation, Mr. Mody addressing the Viceroy expressed his pleasure at having met him and also expressed his thanks to him for the great interest he had shown in the university project. The speech having been interpreted by Mr. Harris, Commissioner of Customs, His Excellency bowed his acknowledgments. After refreshments had been served, Sir Paul Chater conducted the party over his residence and explained to them the most interesting features of his priceless collection of porcelain. So great an impression did this make on the Viceroy that on leaving he requested Mr. Harris to express his thanks to the "Porcelain King."

The party then returned to Glenealy where they were entertained by Commissioner Kao, and about four o'clock the Viceroy and his suite re-embarked on the *Hsin Ming* which steamed out of the harbour shortly afterwards bound for Shanghai.

DEATH OF MR. A. F. GARDINER.

News reached the Colony on July 27, by telegram, of the death of Mr. A. F. Gardiner, of Tamsui and formerly of Amoy. Mr. Gardiner, who was a tea inspector in the firm of Messrs. Boyd & Co., had been ill a long time, and was under medical treatment in Hongkong during the winter months. He was probably not over forty years of age, and his premature death will be much regretted by the wide circle of friends whom he made in his long residence in the East.

DEATH OF CAPTAIN ROBSON.

News has reached the Colony of the death of Captain A. J. Robson, who had for many years been in the service of the Douglas Steamship Co., and was lately in command of the steamer *Haimun*. He went home on sick-leave a few months ago, and his death took place at Newcastle-on-Tyne on the 27th ult. The news will be received with deep regret all along the coast, for he was well known from Hongkong to Foochow and held in high esteem by all who knew him. Yesterday the flags of the Douglas S. S. Company's steamers in port were half-masted.

SUPREME COURT.

Saturday, 24th July.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR MR. H. H. J.
GOMPERTZ (PUISNE JUDGE.)

MONEY LENT.

From Singh brought an action against A. R. Diercks for the recovery of \$300 due under a promissory note. Mr. J. H. Gardiner appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. F. B. Bowley appeared for the defendant.

Plaintiff stated that he lent defendant \$250 and received as security a promissory note for \$300. Under cross-examination he admitted that Mr. Frerichs had signed the note as well as defendant. Plaintiff did not know where Mr. Frerichs was now. He did not know that he had left the Colony on July 2nd. He did not make him a party to the action because he did not pay the money to him, but to the defendant.

A. A. Cassumboy, a shroff, spoke to Mr. Frerichs having a conversation with the plaintiff about lending money and witness acted as interpreter. Defendant was not present at that interview and plaintiff wanted defendant to sign the note. Plaintiff handed the money to Mr. Frerichs.

Defendant admitted his liability less \$45 which he said had been paid.

His Lordship gave judgment for the plaintiff for the amount claimed less \$45, the money to be repaid by monthly instalments of \$25, and the costs of the case to be paid at once.

Monday, 26th July.

CLAIM FOR GOODS SUPPLIED.

Action was brought by Abdul Kader against Kirpa Ram and Mangtu Ram to recover \$159.67 due for goods supplied.

Mr. Reader Harris (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. J. H. Gardiner represented the second defendant.

Mr. Harris asked leave to amend the description of the defendant by adding the words "lately carrying on business in partnership with others at 30, Austin Road, Kowloon," to the writ. His friend consented.

His Lordship allowed leave to amend.

Mr. Harris said the action was a simple one for goods sold and delivered, and called the plaintiff.

Abdul Kader said there were three partners in the defendant firm, but one of them was now dead. The goods supplied were flour and another commodity. The three partners used to order goods and took them away from his godown themselves on receipt of his delivery orders.

In cross-examination plaintiff said he had been trading on his own account since July last year. There was no signboard over his shop bearing the name of Ying and Co. One payment made by the defendants was not entered in his books, but he had receipted their bill. Witness issued a warrant for the arrest of the second defendant the day his shopman told him the defendant was going to leave the Colony. He did not know that the second defendant was carrying on a very thriving business at Taipo, and that he was not likely to leave the Colony until the completion of the railway.

Bailiff Rozario deposed to arresting the second defendant at Austin Road, Kowloon.

Mr. Harris put in the file of a summary action in 1908 in which the second defendant sued as a plaintiff and described himself as a partner in the business at 30, Austin Road.

Mr. Gardiner said the defence was that the amount claimed was not due from the second defendant at all. He had never been a partner in the firm, but he was in partnership with another Indian in a shop at Taipo.

His Lordship—When the defendant was arrested he came into chambers, but made no statement of that sort. He said he could get the money if he sent a man to Taipo.

Mr. Gardiner—I have known all along the ins and outs of this firm.

His Lordship—It's very extraordinary that he shouldn't have told me something about this matter when he came before me. Instead, he practically admitted the claim.

Mr. Gardiner—This is an excellent defence. I know the defendant was never a partner, and shall prove it conclusively.

His Lordship—If he is, not a partner, and held himself out as one, he is liable.

Mr. Gardiner—He never has held himself out as a partner. There is no reason why he should.

Defendant said he was sent to the plaintiff by the first defendant and another Indian to procure flour on their account. Plaintiff refused to supply the flour as he did not know the defendant, so the men he was doing the business for gave him \$50 to get the flour. On his own account defendant had always paid cash for goods he bought, and plaintiff had never asked him for payment of the amount claimed. He never represented to the plaintiff that he was a partner in the Austin Road shop. Witness bought his share in the Taipo shop from the first defendant. He had no intention at the present time of quitting the Colony, as he was carrying on a good business, and had a lot of money to collect.

Does the shopman who brought about your arrest know that?—Yes. All the world knows it.

Cross-examined—Defendant first met the plaintiff about eighteen months ago, when he went to buy flour.

Then how was it, six months after, when you went to buy flour he said he didn't know you? He did not mean he did not know me, but that he would not give me credit.

After further evidence the hearing was adjourned.

Tuesday, July 27th.

CLAIM FOR WAGES.

A. Landau sued the Oriental Brewery, Ltd., to recover \$209.50, being as to \$100 for one month's wages; as to \$100, one month's wages in lieu of notice; and as to \$9.50, out of pocket expenses agreed to be paid by defendants.

Mr. Crowther Smith (of Messrs. Almada and Smith) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Davidson (of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings) represented the defendants.

Plaintiff deposed to entering defendants' employment on June 21st, when it was agreed that he should start work on a monthly salary of \$100 and ricscha expenses. The general manager also gave him a letter of recommendation to clients, which he produced. On July 1st witness went to work as usual, returning to the office at noon. He did not see the manager, but the bookkeeper asked him if he had the letter he received on his appointment. Plaintiff said he had not got it with him, and then the bookkeeper told him it was the first of the month, and that they would not require his services further, as there was not enough work for him. When he saw the general manager that gentleman told him the same story. Witness had introduced the Company's beer to Weismann's, Bertoloni's and the Mutual Stores, and other firms had promised to give him orders.

In cross-examination plaintiff said he was a clerk in the Hongkong Hotel before he joined the Oriental Brewery Co. He did not leave there because he had a connection with another hotel. He gave Mr. Hocking the reference that he was a brother Mason. The manager did not say that he would engage plaintiff on trial.

The fact that you were a Mason wasn't much guarantee that you could sell beer, was it?—No, but I am a good canvasser.

Did Mr. Hocking tell you that your predecessor did not bring in enough business to pay his salary?—No. He said he was drinking too much.

What do you mean by saying you introduced the beer into Weismann's?—I persuaded them to take a cask, and they took a cask a day afterwards.

You kept no record of what orders you obtained?—No, because I got no commission.

And Mr. Hocking didn't say that if you did well the question of commission would be considered?—No.

What did Mr. Hoffman mean when he said there was not enough work for you?—That I can't understand.

I suggest that what he said was that you were not getting enough work?—No.

It was rather a silly thing that Mr. Hoffman said?—I can't give any opinion.

Have you given the Oriental Brewery any list of your out of pocket expenses?—No.

Didn't Mr. Hocking at one time ask you to make a regular report of your work for the day and your expenses?—No.

Mr. Davidson said the Company denied liability as to travelling expenses, because they had not been furnished with particulars. They had paid \$33.33 into Court for wages due to defendant, whose case he proceeded to outline. The plaintiff, he said, went to see Mr. Hocking about June 20th, and asked for employment. Mr. Hocking informed him that their previous runner had left because he had been extremely unsatisfactory, and had not brought in enough orders to pay his salary. Mr. Hocking told the plaintiff he would take him on trial at \$100, and that his position would depend upon the way he worked. Plaintiff was extremely unsatisfactory, was never in the office, and got practically no orders at all. At the end of the month, when the other employees of the Company were receiving their wages, Mr. Hocking instructed the cashier to pay plaintiff his wages to the end of the month and dismiss him. Mr. Hoffman told plaintiff on that day that his services would be no longer required and tendered him \$33.33 for wages and a receipt. Plaintiff then said nothing about out of pocket expenses, but refused to sign the receipt, saying he would see the manager.

Mr. A. Hocking, manager of the defendant Company, gave evidence on the lines of his solicitor's opening statement. He denied that plaintiff placed the beer at Weismann's, and said he required a statement of all out of pocket expenses.

In cross-examination defendant stated that when he gave plaintiff the letter he held he (witness) expected that plaintiff would stay in the employment of the Brewery for months. After plaintiff had been there three days witness told him he must render a statement of the places he had visited, the business he had done, and the expenses he had incurred.

Re-examined—After plaintiff's dismissal he went to see witness and suggested that the Company should open a beer hall. Witness said it would be a good idea, as he thought it might help "some." Plaintiff did not then mention anything about travelling expenses.

Mr. H. E. Hoffman, cashier of the Brewery Company, gave evidence as to tendering plaintiff \$33.33 with his notice of dismissal. Plaintiff refused to accept it, saying that he wanted a month's notice.

After listening to the solicitors' addresses, his Lordship reserved judgment.

ALLEGED FALSE IMPRISONMENT.

Action was brought by Mak Tit Sang against Chan Kwan Shan to recover \$500, damages sustained for alleged wrongful imprisonment.

Mr. Crowther Smith (of Messrs. Almada and Smith) represented the plaintiff, while Mr. P. Sydenham Dixon (of Mr. R. A. Harding's office) appeared for the defendant.

His Lordship said he had seen a subpoena addressed to the Registrar calling upon him to produce the Judge's notes. The proceeding was to apply for a certified copy.

Mr. Dixon—I have the exhibits. I don't mind about the notes.

Plaintiff said he was the manager of the Po On firm, but was not and had never been a partner. On July 7th the bailiff and defendant called at the shop and asked for the master. Plaintiff said he had gone to a solicitor's office. The bailiff then seized the shop, and on defendant's instructions seized plaintiff, who was taken to jail, where he remained for about 24 hours. Witness was uncomfortable while he was there. He had no evening meal and could get no sleep, and was upset after coming out.

Cross-examined—Surely you're not going to deny that you are a partner in the Po On?—I'm not a partner.

But in the summary action you were held by the Judge to be a partner?—Truly, I'm not a partner.

Mr. Smith—Your Lordship never held that he was a partner.

His Lordship—Having held he was a partner I cannot hold that he was not. I would drop that point.

Mr. Dixon stated that as soon as his client got judgment and issued execution he told the bailiff to go to the shop and if he did not find sufficient security—that was, sufficient pro-

party—to arrest the two partners. The bailiff would go into the box and say there was not sufficient security, and he thereupon arrested the plaintiff. The plaintiff entered the shop while the bailiff was in possession. The bailiff handed him the writ of execution and asked him, "What are you going to do about this?" The man grinned and said, "I no savvy."

His Lordship—Did you issue execution against the man?

Mr. Dixon—Yes. He was adjudged a partner.

His Lordship—Had he been adjudged a partner at that time?

Mr. Dixon—Yes. In argument before Mr. Slade your Lordship said you were prepared to hold that he was a partner.

His Lordship—I simply gave execution against the firm.

Mr. Dixon—Mr. Almada never disputed that we could not arrest the plaintiff. He said we could not pursue both our remedies.

His Lordship—I don't think you could have issued execution against the man.

Mr. Dixon—There is a provision in the Code.

His Lordship—All you got was judgment against the Po On. There was no finding as to who was or who was not a partner.

Mr. Dixon—The bailiff, on not finding sufficient security in the shop, arrested the plaintiff.

His Lordship—What did the sale realise?

Mr. Dixon—The stock has not been sold. Another partner came and paid the debt. Proceeding, Mr. Dixon said the provisions on which he relied were section 23 of Summary Jurisdiction Ordinance No. 4 of 1873, section 371 of the Code and the Indian Civil Code, section 230.

Defendant was called, and deposed to the value of the stock in the shop at the time it was seized by the bailiff being about \$300. Plaintiff stated that the value of a pair of shoes was from forty to fifty cents, and his (defendant's) estimate was based on the number of rows of shoes.

Cross-examined—What are you?—A jeweller.

Then you are not a judge of the value of shoes?—Well, I have been wearing a good many shoes, you know.

Bailiff Leonard also bore testimony to the fact that there was not sufficient stock in the shop when he visited it to satisfy defendant's judgment. Plaintiff was pointed out to him by defendant, and arrested by the latter's instructions.

Mr. Smith said it was not reasonable to put it in the bailiff's hands to decide whether there was sufficient property in a shop. Taking away the liberty of a man was a very serious thing and ought not to be resorted to if there was any probability that it was not required.

His Lordship—Supposing you had been in possession of proof that there was much more stock than was required to satisfy the judgment, then I think the arrest would have been made at the peril of the defendant in this action. He told the bailiff to arrest the plaintiff, and he is responsible. It seems to me that the stock here was not sufficient.

Mr. Smith—There is really no evidence to that effect. No attempt was made to value the property. They did not even look at the shoes to see if they were the most expensive kind or the cheapest.

His Lordship—I asked the defendant that and he said they seemed to be of three different kinds.

Mr. Smith—The defendant said the bailiff looked at only one pair of shoes.

His Lordship—On the authorities before me it seems to me that the arrest was quite justifiable. However, it is an important matter, and a matter the profession would like settled.

Mr. Smith—We certainly should, my Lord.

His Lordship—In that case I won't give my judgment now. I think it would be better to consider the matter and consult the Chief Justice.

Judgment was reserved.

Wednesday, July 28th.

CLAIM FOR WAGES.

The Puisne Judge delivered his reserved decision in the case in which A. Landau sued the Oriental Brewery Co. to recover \$209.50,

being as to \$100 for one month's wages; as to \$100, one month's wages in lieu of notice; and as to \$9.50 out of pocket expenses agreed to be paid by defendants.

Plaintiff was represented by Mr. Crowther Smith (of Messrs. Almada and Smith), and Mr. Davidson (of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings) appeared for the defendants.

His Lordship said he had come to the conclusion on the facts that the engagement was a temporary engagement, that was to say, that the plaintiff was there on trial. The only sum due to him, then, as salary, was the amount paid into Court, \$33.33. As to the claim for expenses, it seemed to his Lordship that it was not a condition precedent that accounts should be given. If they were wanted, the defendants should have asked for them. The sum was a small one, \$9.50, and on the whole his Lordship thought that if there was such a condition attached it might have been held to be waived by the defendants. He would give judgment for the plaintiff for the amount paid into Court, and the amount of his expenses, \$9.50.

Mr. Davidson said his Lordship had discretion in the matter of costs, which need not necessarily follow the judgment. He submitted that in this case the plaintiff's claim was not a genuine one; it was merely a "try on."

His Lordship—I am not sure that it is.

Mr. Smith—I am certain it is not.

Mr. Davidson asked his Lordship not to give the plaintiff his costs in the action. If his Lordship thought the case was a genuine one, he had nothing more to say; if it was otherwise, he thought the defendants should get costs.

His Lordship—I shall let the costs follow the judgment.

A SUMMARY OR ORIGINAL ACTION?

Three claims to recover principal and interest due for money lent were brought by Kan Tsoi Shi against Woo King Hang. The first claim was for \$795.42; the second for \$570.77; and the third for \$642.27.

Mr. Eldon Potter, instructed by Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro (of Messrs. Almada and Smith) appeared for the plaintiff, while defendant was represented by Mr. J. W. Orr, who was instructed by Mr. John Hastings (of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings).

His Lordship asked if the cases were to be taken together.

Mr. Potter asked his Lordship to take them together.

Mr. Orr said he was going to object to his Lordship hearing any of the cases. In the three actions brought against the defendant the total amount came to \$1,800 without interest. He submitted the ten alleged loans were all one cause of action, and that the plaintiff could not divide her claim so as to bring it in the summary court.

His Lordship—Are there any negotiable instruments?

Mr. Orr—No, these are simply claims for money lent.

His Lordship—The parties in these cases are all the same?

Mr. Orr—Yes.

His Lordship—A wily plaintiff would always get promissory notes.

Mr. Orr—There is no question of promissory notes here. Several separate contracts may come to one cause of action.

His Lordship—I think I am inclined to agree with you. Give me your authorities.

Mr. Orr, after quoting authorities submitted that plaintiff's proper remedy was not in the summary court, and asked his Lordship to dismiss the actions.

Mr. Potter admitted that a plaintiff was not allowed to split up his cause of action, but his case was entirely different. His client made certain loans in July, 1908, and charged a certain rate of interest, and those loans were to be repaid by certain dates.

Mr. Orr said he had had no notice that the loans were repayable on different dates.

Mr. Potter said there were three items on the first writ. The first loan was made on July 2nd and the next two on the 5th. All those loans were repayable two months after date, and the interest charged was one per cent per month. On the third writ there were three loans, one made on the 19th and one on the 25th July, and another on August 21st. Those loans were repayable on a different date altogether, and carried a different interest.

His Lordship—When are they payable?

Mr. Potter—Three months after date, and the interest was 1.2 per cent. Proceeding, Counsel stated that there were four loans on the second writ, and they were repayable at the end of the winter solstice. They were separate contracts on the separate writs, and interest and principal were repayable at different times. There could be no splitting about that. On the first writ plaintiff demanded her money when it was due, and could not get it.

Mr. Orr—Then you could have sued for the whole of it.

Mr. Potter stated that it was not allowable to split a claim for \$1,000 so as to bring the action within the summary jurisdiction. The Ordinance referred to an action the subject matter of which exceeded \$1,000.

His Lordship—The question is whether it does here?

Mr. Orr said the point was whether these ten separate contracts constituted one cause of action.

Mr. Potter asked how that could be (when they were in fact different contracts. The case cited by his friend was one continuous contract which could not be split up. Here there were three different contracts, and if the plaintiff had brought an action at the end of the eighth moon she could not have sued for money due at the end of the ninth moon. It did not make it one cause of action because they liked to give the defendant grace.

Mr. Orr contended that if the dates were allowed to run on until over \$1,000 had been borrowed, then plaintiff must take her proper remedy in the original jurisdiction.

Mr. Potter said the items in this case were not connected at all. His friend's argument was that because the plaintiff did not take steps at the psychological moment the three actions were all one.

His Lordship (to Mr. Orr)—Supposing you bought a horse from a man, and a month afterwards bought a gun, if the amounts were not paid wouldn't that be two different causes of action?

Mr. Orr said it would not, and submitted that in the present case there was but one cause of action.

His Lordship—I am not sure, but it seems to me that these are not connected and continuous transactions.

Mr. Potter said his friend's grievance was because the plaintiff did not promptly go for this man. Because she was not harsh she was to be deprived of her remedy in this Court.

His Lordship stated that he was not prepared to decide the point at once, and on the suggestion of Mr. Orr adjourned the hearing until after tiffin.

On the Court resuming,

Mr. Potter stated that before his Lordship gave judgment he wished to call his attention to a case he decided the other day which was very much the same.

Mr. Orr objected. He thought his friend had had ample opportunity to raise the point in the morning.

His Lordship—You mean I gave judgment in a similar case?

Mr. Potter—Yes.

His Lordship—Very likely the point was not taken.

Mr. Potter—Mr. Goldring raised the point.

Mr. Orr—That was a totally different case. Three promissory notes were given.

Mr. Potter—I was going to ask your Lordship, in case you intend to decide against me, to give us a further opportunity for arguing the point, as it leads to a strange proposition of law.

His Lordship—Do you mean you are taken by surprise?

Mr. Potter—My point is that it does not come in the splitting section at all, and that these three actions must become merged into one by some process of law.

His Lordship—On each writ there are several sums lent on different dates, and presumably they are repayable on different dates.

Mr. Potter—Those on one writ are all repayable on the same date.

Mr. Orr—Some amounts are borrowed in the seventh moon, and one on the ninth moon. I have freely admitted that these are separate contracts, but I say that before this writ was issued there was one cause of action.

Mr. Potter—My friend admits that at one time we must have had three causes of action, but now there is some process, he has not given an instance, of these becoming merged.

His Lordship—He quoted from the Law Journal. In all the cases that have been cited, and in others I have referred to myself, the Court as a rule has tried to get over the objection if it could, and I would have done so if I could, but I don't think I can. There is one claim, simply for money owing and which ought to have been repaid on different dates, but has not been repaid. It seems to me that it is all one claim.

Mr. Potter—There was one point I intended to urge if this is permitted to be fully argued.

His Lordship—When do you wish this full argument to take place?

Mr. Potter—To-morrow, in Chambers.

Mr. Orr—The point was reserved this morning for judgment. My friend had ample opportunity to argue the case, and I think it is now not fair to me that it should be re-opened.

Mr. Potter—It is in your Lordship's power to hear further argument now, or on another day, if your Lordship thinks it is a point deserving of further argument.

His Lordship—It is not an easy point.

Mr. Orr—I think the point was fully argued this morning. I would ask your Lordship to give judgment, and if my friend likes he can appeal.

Mr. Potter—My friend is quite within his rights as to splitting, and if it was simply a splitting of the action I would have been quite prepared to answer it, but something more has to happen before splitting takes place. My friend must first prove that all these causes of action are merged into one. It is a proposition not known to the law that any separate causes of action should be merged into one.

His Lordship—Suppose you had ten causes could you bring three writs?

Mr. Potter—We are always allowed to join, but where there are separate and distinct actions there is no process by which they can be merged.

Mr. Orr—That is the whole point, whether they are separate or distinct actions. I would ask your Lordship to give judgment.

His Lordship—I must give judgment for the defendant, unless Mr. Potter wishes to amend.

Mr. Potter—The only way we could amend would be to agree that we won't recover a balance of \$1,000.

Mr. Orr—I will ask for judgment and costs in each of the three actions.

Mr. Potter—Not judgment, my Lord. This is a non-suit.

His Lordship—I will dismiss each action with costs.

Mr. Potter—Do I understand the judgment is that those three actions become merged into one?

His Lordship—I hold that they come under the section which states that there is one cause of action existing at the one time.

Mr. Potter—Your Lordship holds that the three writs form one cause of action?

His Lordship—Yes, and I think it would be a very good thing if there was an appeal. It is a very important point.

The actions were dismissed with costs.

Thursday, July 29th.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR FRANCIS
PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

A PETITION ADJOURNED.

Re the Ko Tsau King.

Mr. R. D. Atkinson (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon) said this matter was adjourned a fortnight ago in order to allow the Official Receiver to make inquiries as to whether there were sufficient assets in the shop. The assets, according to the declaration of assets, amounted, as far as the petitioning creditor could say, to about \$37,700.

His Lordship—Is this the ginger shop?

Mr. Atkinson—The preserved fruit shop.

His Lordship—What is the state of the bankruptcy?

Mr. Atkinson—I understand there is an offer of \$2,000 for the goodwill of the business, and those \$2,000, so far as I am aware, are the only

assets available to the debtor. The furniture and fittings were sold under a restraint for rent about ten days ago, and realised about \$800. I believe there is a small balance besides this offer for the goodwill.

His Lordship—What are the liabilities?

Mr. Atkinson—About \$70,600, as far as the petitioning creditor can say.

The Official Receiver (Mr. Fletcher) — I don't agree with the statement that \$2,000 has been offered for the goodwill. I was offered \$500 for the whole of the business in the beginning, and Mr. Lammett, from whom I made enquiries, considered that a good price. A man came and offered \$2,000 if the sale was stopped. I suggested to him that he should buy the business himself, and I understand that he did so. The business was sold at auction for \$819 against a restraint of \$1,220. The goodwill was not sold, but I think it was worth nothing.

Mr. Atkinson—I understand a man is ready to give \$2,000 for the goodwill.

His Lordship—There are not enough assets to warrant me making an order.

Mr. Atkinson—Would your Lordship adjourn the case for a week in order to ascertain whether the purchase for \$2,000 can be put through or not?

His Lordship—I will adjourn it into Chambers. The matter can be discussed there.

RECEIVING ORDER GRANTED.

Re the Sang Cheong Chan.

Mr. Davidson (of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings), who appeared for the petitioning creditor, said this was a petition for a receiving order to be made against the Sang Cheong Chan firm. The debt was 600 taels, and the act of bankruptcy was that on June 30th notice was given to the petitioning creditor by the firm that they had suspended payment of their debts.

His Lordship—I have to see the notice of suspension.

Mr. Davidson—I can obtain that. Another act of bankruptcy is that the managing partner has absented himself from the business.

The Official Receiver—He is the sole owner, and he has absconded. I think this is a clear case for a receiving order.

His Lordship—What are the assets?

Mr. Davidson—The only asset the petitioning creditor is aware of is a quantity of timber worth \$1,000. I understand this has been sold under restraint, the restraint has been satisfied, and I believe there is a balance of \$800 or \$900 left as well as some book debts of which the petitioning creditor has no information.

His Lordship—What are the liabilities?

Mr. Davidson—That I don't know.

The Official Receiver—Between \$800 and \$900 in hand, and about \$14,000 worth of book debts. I am satisfied there is a reasonable prospect of a dividend.

The order was granted.

REPORT BY THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER.

Re Yuen Lan Hin.

The Official Receiver stated that Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon had applied in Chambers in this matter for a receiving order. Debtor was a sub-contractor, and practically his only assets were \$2,000 due under a contract. The speaker wrote to the War Department regarding the debtor, and received a reply that they had no knowledge of him, as he was not on the War Department list of contractors. In spite of that, Mr. Fletcher thought it was possible that there was some mistake in names, and that the debtor was a sub-contractor for another man. He asked that the application be postponed until he could make further inquiries. The request was granted.

ADJUDICATION ORDERS.

Re Lam Wing.

The Official Receiver applied for an adjudication order in this bankruptcy. The receiving order was made on January 13th, 1908, and the adjourned first meeting of creditors was held on March 28, at which it was unanimously resolved that the debtor should be adjudged bankrupt and the Official Receiver appointed trustee. The public examination was held on April 16th. It was customary for the solicitor who appeared for the debtor to apply for adjudication and file it, but in this case nothing had been done, so he would ask that the adjudication order be made now.

His Lordship—When was the meeting of creditors?

The Official Receiver—On March 28th, 1908. His Lordship—That prevents it going into the rubbish heap.

The Official Receiver—I apply in this connection that the Official Receiver should apply for a receiving order in every case. He presides at the meeting of creditors and reports to the Court, and it is customary at home for him to file adjudication orders as it prevents delay.

His Lordship—I am not quite prepared to make a general order to that effect: I should say, unless an adjudication order is applied for within a month.

The Official Receiver—I have made it a practice always to apply at once on the resolution of the creditors. A solicitor does not always know what the creditors have resolved, as he is not always present at the meeting.

His Lordship—I will consider it, and make a general order during the week if you will see me in Chambers. In this case I make the order.

SMALL INCOME AND LARGE FAMILY.

Re C. M. Barradas.

The Official Receiver conducted the public examination of debtor.

C. M. Barradas said he had been employed as a clerk in the China Sugar Refining Co. for three years at a monthly salary of \$125. Roughly, his liabilities totalled \$1,500 and he had no other assets than his salary from the firm.

What family do you support on your salary?—I have a wife and eight children.

And only one of your children is earning a salary?—Yes, my son receives \$50 a month, out of which he gives me \$30 and keeps \$20.

And you rent a room to a Chinese cook for \$5 a month?—Yes.

Your indebtedness is chiefly owing to monies borrowed?—Yes.

When did you start borrowing money?—Between six and seven years ago.

And you have never been in a position to pay it off?—No.

And as loans become due and people pressed you, you borrowed more money to pay off the former loans?—Yes.

Have you had any extraordinary expense at any time?—Doctors' bills.

What, roughly, have you spent this year on doctors?—Over \$100, besides medicines for which I paid cash.

It has been reported to me by a creditor that either just before or after your petition in bankruptcy you gave a feast at your house on the occasion of the confirmation of one of your daughters. Is that correct?—It is not so.

The Official Receiver—That is all I wish to ask the debtor. This is a very small bankruptcy, and some friends are willing to put up enough money to pay about 15 per cent. I have had a meeting of creditors, and they are willing to accept the composition.

The public examination was closed.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR MR. H. H. J.
GOMPERTZ (PUISNE JUDGE).

CLAIM FOR GOODS SUPPLIED.

His Lordship heard further evidence in the action between Abdul Kader and Kirpa Ram and Mangtu Ram, in which the plaintiff sought to recover from the defendants \$159.67 for goods supplied.

Plaintiff was represented by Mr. M. Reader Harris (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist), and the second defendant by Mr. J. H. Gardiner.

Judgment was reserved.

AN ABSENT WITNESS.

A case was called on in which Wong Fak Kin sued Chiu Fuk Kwan to recover \$434.41, being as to \$103 for money lent; as to \$38 for money paid by plaintiff to the Chun Wo firm on behalf and at the request of the defendant; and as to \$293.41 damages for wrongful detention of one set of gold buttons, one gauze waistcoat and one pawn ticket relating to the pawning of one pair of pearl earrings mounted with gold.

Mr. P. W. Goldring (of Messrs. Goldring, Barlow and Morrell) represented the plaintiff, and Mr. Davidson (of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings) appeared for the defendant.

Mr. Davidson applied for an adjournment, stating that his Lordship had made an order that the case was to be tried yesterday subject to his friend furnishing particulars on Saturday, but

Mr. Goldring had not furnished them until a day or two ago.

Mr. Goldring—They were furnished on Monday.

Mr. Davidson—My friend is in default.

His Lordship—Was any date mentioned?

Mr. Davidson—Saturday morning.

Mr. Goldring said he was not aware of this, and his instructions were to get on with the case if possible, as his client was going away. He supplied the particulars by letter on Monday afternoon.

Mr. Davidson—I got them on Tuesday.

His Lordship—There is this: I don't want to put more things off than I can help, as the Full Court will be sitting next week. (To Mr. Davidson)—You have had time to go into the particulars?

Mr. Davidson—I can't honestly say that I have not, but as a matter of fact one of my witnesses is not here.

His Lordship—Was it an expression of opinion that they should be ready on Saturday, or was it an understanding?

Mr. Davidson—I think it was an understanding. I cannot say for certain that your Lordship made it conditional.

His Lordship—I am not sure that I did. In any case I could not give you the costs of a postponement. It would have to be costs in the cause.

Mr. Davidson—I shall be quite satisfied with that.

His Lordship fixed the hearing for this afternoon.

Friday, July 30th

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR MR. H. H. J. GOMPERTZ (PUISNE JUDGE).

CLAIM FOR GOODS SUPPLIED.

His Lordship delivered his reserved decision in the action in which Abdul Kader claimed \$159.67 from Kirpa Ram and Mangtu Ram for goods supplied. He entered judgment for the plaintiff for \$83.22 on the ground that the second defendant twice held himself out to be a partner in the defendant firm. Two clear months were allowed in which to pay the amount of the judgment, the first payment to be made on September 1st. Costs were to be paid immediately.

Mr. Reader Harris (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) represented the plaintiff, and the second defendant was represented by Mr. J. H. Gardiner.

A QUESTION OF PROCEDURE.

His Lordship mentioned the action in which Prom Singh sued A. R. Diercks to recover \$300 under a promissory note, and in which Mr. J. H. Gardiner appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. F. B. L. Bowley (of Messrs. Oennys and Bowley) for the defendant.

His Lordship stated that he had allowed the defendant to pay in instalments of 25 a month. It appeared that the costs were \$60, and an *ex parte* application was made in Chambers.

Mr. Gardiner—When?

His Lordship—A day or two ago, by Mr. Bowley.

Mr. Gardiner—It is quite irregular, my Lord. I had notice from my friend saying that he was going to make the application in Court this morning. He is now going behind my back and applying in chambers. I am prepared to argue that the judgment cannot be varied.

His Lordship—I will hear you in Chambers when the list is closed.

Mr. Gardiner read a letter in which Mr. Bowley had informed him that he intended to ask his Lordship to vary the judgment in this action. After that, said Mr. Gardiner, he appeared in Chambers to discuss the matter.

His Lordship—He asked me if I was prepared to consider it.

Mr. Gardiner—Surely that is not the correct procedure.

His Lordship—I have given no decision. The matter is quite open. I will hear argument in Chambers.

SECURITY FOR COSTS.

Mr. Jackson (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) appeared for the plaintiff in the action

in which F. H. Hyde, proprietor of the Swatow Hotel, sued J. A. Churchill to recover \$218.65.

Mr. Otto Kong Sing, who represented the defendant, asked for security for costs.

Mr. Jackson opposed the application.

Mr. Kong Sing—The plaintiff resides at Swatow, in the Empire of China.

Mr. Jackson—This is not a *bona fide* application.

His Lordship—Supposing the defendant is successful, how would he get his costs?

Mr. Jackson—There is no possible chance of his being successful, because he has admitted the debt.

His Lordship—Is that the only ground of your opposition?

Mr. Jackson—Yes.

Mr. Kong Sing—There is the legal defence that the money is owing for drink, etc. If my friend insists upon taking the matter to Chambers I shall ask for costs.

Mr. Jackson did not further oppose the application, and his Lordship ordered that \$100 be paid into Court as security for costs, and adjourned the case for a week.

CONCERNING COSTS.

The case in which A. Landau sued the Oriental Brewery, Limited, to recover \$209.50 for wages, wages in lieu of notice and out of pocket expenses, was again mentioned.

Mr. Davidson, for the defendants, mentioned that his Lordship had given judgment for plaintiff for the amount paid into Court, \$9.50 travelling expenses and costs. The latter amount, being under \$10, did not carry costs.

Mr. Crowther Smith, for the plaintiff, said he got judgment for \$42 odd, and he ought to have the costs.

His Lordship—Did I say anything about costs at the time?

Mr. Smith—You gave judgment for plaintiff for \$33.33, \$9.50 out of pocket expenses, and costs. I take it that means costs on the whole lot.

Mr. Davidson—This particular point was not raised at the time.

Mr. Smith—My friend raised the question of costs before your Lordship decided in my favour, and the point cannot be raised again. If he had anything to say, he ought to have said it then. If he wants to appeal, let him appeal. The question was settled when your Lordship gave judgment.

Mr. Davidson—Your Lordship has power to re-consider an application made within the proper time, as this one is.

Mr. Smith—Your Lordship has power to give costs even if the amount recovered is under \$10 if your Lordship thinks it is a proper case.

Mr. Davidson—The Code says that no costs shall be allowed if an amount is under \$10.

Mr. Smith—Your Lordship has absolute discretion as to costs.

Mr. Davidson—Perhaps the bill might be taxed, and the point argued in Chambers.

This was agreed to.

THE FALSE IMPRISONMENT CASE.

His Lordship delivered judgment in the case in which Mak Ti Sang sued Chan Kwan Shan for \$500 damages for false imprisonment.

Mr. D'Almada (of the firm of Messrs. D'Almada & Smith) represented the plaintiff, and Mr. Sydenham Dixon (from Mr. R. A. Harding's office) appeared for the defendant.

His Lordship in giving judgment stated that as the point was an important one he had consulted with the Chief Justice, who agreed with him that the arrest of the plaintiff was justifiable. Judgment was given for the defendant with costs.

A MISSING PAWN TICKET.

The case was continued in which Wong Fu Kin sued Chiu Fu Kwan to recover \$434.41, being as to \$103 for money lent; as to \$38 for money paid by plaintiff to the Chun Wo firm on behalf of and at the request of the defendant; and as to \$293.41 damages for wrongful detention of one set of gold buttons, one gauze waistcoat, and one pawn ticket relating to the pawning of one pair of pearl earrings mounted with gold.

Mr. P. W. Goldring (of Messrs. Goldring, Barlow and Morrell) represented the plaintiff, and Mr. Davidson (of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings) appeared for the defendant.

Mr. Goldring stated that one item in the claim was admitted, and an amount of \$38 paid into

Court. But the most important item of all, and that on which the action would practically turn, was the question of the pawn ticket for the pair of pearl earrings. Plaintiff was a gentleman of more or less independent means who lived with his father at 34, Caine Road. He met the defendant sometime last year and the parties became friendly. About the middle of March this year the defendant borrowed \$23 from plaintiff, and on April 4th and 5th he got two further loans of \$40. Referring to the last loan of \$40, which involved the question of the pawn ticket, plaintiff had no money then in hand, but said he could let the defendant have some jewellery to pawn. A man was sent to pawn the earrings, the rough value of which was \$36. Then there was some question of the defendant finding a purchaser for these earrings. He wrote a letter to the plaintiff informing him that the pair of pearl earrings was worth more than \$300, and asked for the pawn ticket to have inspection of the same and to have the pleasure of seeing the articles with his mortal eyes, eyes which could not discriminate between good and bad. On April 28th defendant wrote another letter informing plaintiff that he had received the pawn ticket, but stating that his friend did not care about the pearls. About a month later defendant wrote to plaintiff and told him that he would return the pawn ticket in a few days, but plaintiff had never received the pawn ticket. Evidence was called and the hearing adjourned.

"PERFECTLY SCANDALOUS."

THE CHIEF JUSTICE AND THE BANKRUPTCY DEPARTMENT.

His Honour the Chief Justice, referring on July 29 to certain bankruptcies, the names of the parties in which he suppressed, stated in the Supreme Court that the conduct of these cases revealed a state of chaos in the bankruptcy department of the Court which was perfectly scandalous. No blame, however, attached to the present Official Receiver. He said it was scandalous, because bankruptcy proceedings were for the benefit of both debtors and creditors, and it was essential that if the Act was to be a benefit the procedure taken under it was to be as rapid as possible. He did not propose to mention names, because it would be unfair to everybody concerned, but he had ordered the papers to be brought before him *en bloc* and had discharged the orders made.

ANOTHER PIRACY.

A daring piracy in the vicinity of Cheung Chau Island has been reported to the Hongkong police. It appears that the Hongkong junk *Sam Fuk Hop* left Hongkong on the 18th inst. for Sui Tong on the West River, but she had scarcely left the archipelago outside when she encountered two piratical junks. They bore down upon her and the traders were not left long in doubt as to the intentions of the men on board the approaching craft. They compelled the junk to lower her sail and they boarded her and took possession of the boat and her cargo, comprising flour, beans, sugar, peas, etc., the total value of which was \$15,000. What happened next is not clear, as neither the junk nor any of her crew have since been heard of. Presumably the robbery took place in British waters, and the police have been very active in their inquiries. Some men were found with portions of the plundered cargo in their possession, and we believe that a number of arrests have been effected, and that a Hongkong officer has proceeded to Macao to make further inquiries.

On the 25th ult, a sampan capsized off Mongkok and the occupants were thrown into the water. Fortunately the occurrence was noticed both by the men in the gig belonging to the Chinese revenue cruiser *Likin* and by those on board the C.P.R. launch *Vancouver*. The gig was first on the scene and rescued the sampan people, and the *Vancouver* took the gig and sampan in tow to the *Likin*, where the sampan people were cared for.

DISTURBANCE IN A HAIRDRESSING SALOON.

At the Magistracy on July 23 Mr. F. A. Hazeland heard a summons for assault brought by A. Lander, manager of the Alexandra Cinematograph, against J. O. Speiss, manager of the Paris Toilet Company, and a cross-summons brought by the latter.

When the case was called, his Worship asked if the matter could not be settled.

Complainant said he asked Mr. Speiss for an apology, but that gentleman refused to give him one.

His Worship—If I adjourn this case for a week, do you think there is any chance of your coming to a settlement?

Defendant—I don't think so. I don't want to settle it.

Complainant was then called to the witness stand, and deposed that on the morning of the 20th instant the defendant used abusive and insulting language to him in the Paris Toilet Co's. shop, caught him by the throat and pulled him round. The reason of this was because he complained about a bill he received, and which he considered excessive. His wife had been charged eight or nine dollars for having her hair dressed, and he told the defendant that this was absolute robbery.

His Worship—That was a very strong word to use.

Witness said he often heard the same word used by passengers in the Hongkong Hotel.

His Worship—Before this, had you been on friendly terms with the defendant?

Witness—Yes.

Defendant—Never. And the complainant did not tell me it was robbery. He called me a robber, and a — robber.

His Worship (to complainant)—Did you use the word robber?

Witness—No.

Defendant was then called to the stand to give evidence on the cross-summons. He stated that at about 11.30 on the morning of the 20th instant the complainant entered his shop with some cinematograph posters. Before taking his departure witness asked him why he struck certain items out of the bill supplied, him. The bill was not excessive, but was \$4 less than it should have been. Complainant told him that his wife was not an American lady, whereupon witness got angry, and taking the bill said, "Never mind. If you don't want to pay it I will arrange that." Complainant said, "Look here, you are a — robber." Witness then seized the complainant, and gave him time to take the word back, but he would not withdraw it.

Witness was questioned by the complainant.

Which language did the conversation take place in?—In English.

And in what language did I make use of the word robber?—In English.

Pardon me, it was in French. And was not only your wife present in the front store?—My wife and boy.

When I told you I'd pay the bill you took it and crushed it up?—Yes.

And you told me you would put me in Court right away if I did not pay it?—Yes.

And when I told you in French, in a friendly way, that it was like robbery, didn't you strike me twice in the face?—No.

What right had you to insult my nation by calling me a dirty Jew? I am a Hebrew, and I represent one of the best nations in the world.—I did not call you a dirty Jew. I was not aware you were a Jew.

When you caught hold of my coat and tried to push me against a showcase, didn't I tell you I was not in a humour to fight, and did not intend to fight?—No.

His Worship was of opinion that both parties were in the wrong, but he thought the person most to blame was Mr. Lander, because he started the row by using the word "robbery," which was calculated to provoke a breach of the peace. Mr. Speiss, however, had no right to touch the other man, so he would bind both parties over in the sum of \$100 to keep the peace for one year.

THE TRAGEDY AT MURRAY BARRACKS.

At the Magistracy on July 24th, before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, sitting as coroner, and Messrs. E. G. Watson, R. Unsworth and G. Grimbly, jurors, an inquiry was held into the circumstances surrounding the death of Private J. Hadgley, D. Company, the Buffs, whose tragic end by shooting himself with a rifle was recorded in the *Daily Press* nearly a fortnight ago.

Drummer Moyer was the first witness. He spoke to deceased calling at the guard room and asking if there were any absentees, to which he received a reply in the negative. Deceased then approached a table in the room, and later went out to the sentry. Witness followed, but returned shortly afterwards to the guard room. He had not been long inside when he heard a shot, and on proceeding to investigate, he found the sentry leaning against a bamboo scaffold holding his rifle in his hand, while deceased was lying on the ground. The sentry informed witness that he had not done it.

Corporal Dixon also testified to seeing deceased in the guard room with the last witness. Deceased asked Moyer where Sergeant Jeffrey was, and the latter inquired what he wanted with him. Deceased said he thought the sergeant had someone else's rifle. When asked whose next turn it was for duty, deceased said it was his. Then he walked round the guard room for a few minutes, put a towel over his shoulder, and went out. A shot was heard shortly afterwards and deceased was found lying on the ground.

Private Giles deposed to seeing the sentry being assisted to the guard room, and the body of deceased carried in. Witness had known deceased for five years, and had always found him bright and cheerful. Recently, however, he had become rather melancholy, and once he told witness that his sister had complained to the War Office on account of his not writing to her more constantly. Deceased appeared to be annoyed at this, as he had been brought before the Company Commander.

Private Mumford, who occupied a bed alongside that of deceased, told the coroner and jury that at about 5.30 on the morning of the 16th instant he saw deceased sitting up in bed. The latter bade him good morning, and told witness he could have a twenty cent piece which was lying on the floor. Witness replied that it was not his, but deceased told him it did not matter, as he would not require it any more. When asked what was the matter, deceased said he would be all right presently. Then he got his towel, and left for a bath.

Private Fright, the sentry, said that deceased approached him at 5.50 a.m. and asked if he had his own rifle. On witness replying that he had deceased said, "Let me have a look at it." The sentry complied with his request, and after looking at the number deceased looked down the barrel "to see if it was clean." A report followed, and deceased fell to the ground, after which witness fainted.

Captain Houblin spoke with regard to the letter he received on June 11th. Deceased's sister inquired if he was dead, as he had not written as often as he ought to have done. Witness summoned deceased before him, and told him it was his duty to write to his relatives.

His Worship, in directing the jury, informed them that it was necessary for them to find one of two things: either that deceased deliberately killed himself, or was of unsound mind. The sister who had written to him, his Worship said, had threatened to take her own life because she had been jilted under dishonourable circumstances. There was also the fact that a brother had committed suicide, and the jury would have to take into consideration what was known in medical jurisprudence as a hereditary tendency to suicide.

The jury returned a verdict of suicide while of unsound mind.

A resolution in favour of the opening at Berlin, as at Hamburg, of a chair of Chinese, was moved by the Duke of Mecklenbourg at the Congress of the German Colonial Society sitting at Dresden, recently, and carried. "In the Far East," said the Duke, "the future lies not with those who have the biggest guns, but with those who possess the best economic outfit."

STREET FIGHTING AT WANCHAI.

Wanchai was roused to great excitement on the 25th ult. A pitched battle took place near Cross Street between the representatives of two secret societies, and the neighbourhood was given over to scenes of the wildest turbulence until the police arrived and quelled the disturbance. The causes of the trouble are not known. It may have been society jealousy. At any rate it is understood that the members of the Cheung Shun Society challenged the members of the Yee Cheung Hing Society, and as this was accepted the combatants met near Cross Street and cudgelled each other pretty severely. About 100 were engaged, and as was natural they attracted a large number of onlookers. As a matter of fact the crowd was so dense that it interfered with all traffic. Information was sent to Inspector Kerr at No. 2 Police Station, and he with Sergeant Baker and a posse of Chinese police and district watchmen proceeded to the scene of the fighting. It took them some time to restore order. They succeeded in arresting seven of the combatants. Six were placed before Mr. Hazeland at the Magistracy yesterday on a charge of fighting and were remanded on bail of \$20 each, and the seventh, charged with assaulting a district watchman, was remanded, bail being fixed at \$50 in his case. One man had an artery of his wrist severed and had to be sent to hospital.

PUBLIC VEHICLES.

AMENDMENTS TO REGULATIONS.

The current *Gazette* contains a number of amendments, made by the Governor-in-Council, in the regulations relating to public vehicles.

The first is that licences for vehicles, and for drivers, drawers, or bearers, shall be issued by the Captain-Superintendent of Police, who may in his discretion refuse to issue any licence. Licences shall not be issued for more than 1,100 rishas within the island of Hongkong, and all licences shall be taken out half-yearly, or for the current half-year.

For every wheeled vehicle, other than a risha, licensed in Victoria, the fee is \$18; at Quarry Bay it is \$12; and at Kowloon and the New Territories (other than a motor-car) it is \$12. The licence for a motor car is \$24, while the driver is required to pay another \$5 half-yearly in advance.

In the City of Victoria the fares for chairs between 8.30 p.m. and 6 a.m. shall be increased by fifty per centum. At Kowloon the fares for public motor cars from the Star Ferry wharf to Kowloon Dock or Hunghom shall be ten cents per passenger, while if the car is appropriated by less than three passengers, each passenger must pay 30 cents.

THE USE OF FERTILIZERS IN JAPAN.

The *Asahi Shimbun* has a detailed note with reference to the great increase in the use of fertilizers in Japan during recent years. The leading place is still occupied by what may be euphoniously termed farmyard-manure, which represents 60 million yen yearly, and another 100 millions are spent upon fish manure, oil cake and rice husks. But the great development has been in what are commonly called artificial fertilizers. Thus sulphate of ammonia, which in the year 1900 was imported to the amount of only 200,000 yen, has now reached to 9 millions, or 1-14 of the total production of this chemical throughout the world. In the case of phosphates the import in 1897 was 100,000 yen, and it is now 5 millions, which is 1/30 of the world's supply. Bean cake has also come to be imported as a fertilizer to the extent of 22 millions annually, and if we add to this the 20 millions which will probably soon be reached in the case of artificial fertilizers, we shall have a total of over 40 millions of imported manures, and the quantity of all kinds used throughout the whole country will aggregate 200 millions. It appears that the greatest falling off is in fish manure, which is now used to the extent of only 1½ millions annually.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE TYPHOON SIGNALS.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

Hongkong, July 29th.

SIR,—Passing up between the Paracel Islands and the Macclesfield Bank on the night of 25th-26th, we had a most delightful run up to Hongkong with beautiful clear sunny weather and light easterly breezes, gradually backing to N.W. as we neared the islands, and a sea that would have been perfectly smooth but for a slight swell from N.E. that furrowed its surface. When passing Gap Rock, it was noticed that a cone was hoisted on the flagstaff, and we were given to understand that that meant that a storm warning was hoisted in the harbour. We could hardly credit it, as the weather was so lovely, but when we had arrived in the harbour we were shown a signal displayed on the Kowloon Point, and told that it meant that "a typhoon was to the S.E. of Hongkong, but beyond 300 miles, and travelling to the N.W." No cargo boats came alongside during the 27th to relieve the ship of the bulky cargo she had brought up from South to the port, and we were informed that nearly all the lighters and smaller craft had sought shelter in the typhoon anchorages, and that it was quite problematical whether any discharge of cargo would take place on the following day.

It seemed very hard to realize that a storm of any magnitude could possibly be anywhere near the Colony, but after listening to some really hair-raising accounts of the 18th September, 1906, and the great loss of life and destruction to water-borne property that had ensued from its passage over the waters of the Colony, we decided to keep our own counsel and await developments. At 6 p.m. a Black Drum was hoisted on the Kowloon Point, and the officers informed us that that meant that the "typhoon was within 300 miles of the Colony," so we shivered apprehensively, and retired to our cabins in anything but a cheerful frame of mind; and yet it was a lovely night, a deliciously light and cool breeze making itself felt on deck on the side where we sat after dinner, the sky clear overhead, and the moon and stars shining brilliantly. A perfectly peaceful and quiet night ensued, and the sky before morning sunrise seemed to promise an equally beautiful and quiet day; but one of the ship's officers informed us that the black typhoon signals were still up, and that it would be prudent for us to remain on board until they were hauled down, or else we might find it very difficult to get a boat to bring us back to the ship. So again, much against our wish in such lovely weather, we remained on board and witnessed another day of enforced idleness on board the ship and those at anchor near her. The ship herself lying under steam the whole time, although securely fast to her buoy, and yet a more perfectly beautiful and quiet sunny day it would be hard to conceive anywhere, or a more perfect day for the discharge of cargo. In the afternoon a launch from the office came alongside, and we then learnt that such stoppages of work in the harbour of Hongkong had been quite frequent during this month of July, and that the losses to trade had been truly enormous. We were informed that two of the big coasting companies of the China Coast had suffered enormous losses through having a great number of their ships in port and all idle for days and days with steam up all the time because of the typhoon signals being up, and demurrage going on on several of them, while others of them were losing good charters through their time limit having expired; many of their ships also lying idle for days at Wanchai with coal cargoes on board that allow but a small margin of profit if discharged expeditiously; and that a great sum of money had had to be expended on Sunday Permits to try and avoid some of the charter penalties.

So now, Sir, after having been kept a prisoner on board ship for three days, and been made to feel frightened and anxious in my mind during

two nights, so much so that I had the nightmare last night, I feel that I really have a grievance.

So I would like to ask you whether you consider that efficient steps have been taken to ensure that the shipping lying in the waters of this Colony are efficiently warned about the approach of storms that are likely to endanger water borne property, without unnecessarily impeding the work of discharging and loading the ships? To put it in another way:—Are those who are in charge of the Hongkong Observatory in constant daily communication during the typhoon months with stations situated in such positions around the harbour of Hongkong that they can receive an unfailing supply of ample meteorological data from those stations, from which they can deduce really satisfactory conclusions as to the distance from and movements towards the waters of the Colony of typhoons that may have originated in the Pacific or the China Sea? And if not, why not? You ask me, to what stations do I refer? Why, of course, I refer to such stations as the Cape of Good Hope, Swatow, the South Cape of Formosa, the Pratas Island, and Hainan Head, as those would constitute the Inner Circle round the Colony. And Manila, Balabac Island, and Tourane or Hué would constitute the Outer Circle. Wireless telegraph apparatus to be fitted on those stations that are not already in communication with Hongkong by cable; especially the station on Pratas Island, which appears to me to be ideally situated between Hongkong and Manila as a half-way house from which those in the Hongkong Observatory might be informed accurately as to the meteorological conditions prevailing in the sea to the South-East of the Colony.—I am, Sir, Yours faithfully,

TRAVELLER.

THE MACAO OPIUM FARM.

Our correspondent at Macao writes that on the afternoon of the 22nd instant tenders were opened for the opium monopoly. The highest tender was submitted by Mr. Liang Kiu San, of Hongkong, the amount being \$131,700. The tender was submitted in the name of Ku Yen San. The committee announced that the tender could not be accepted as the Government's reserve was \$160,000. This announcement has occasioned much adverse criticism of the Government, because no mention of any reserve or upset price was made in the advertisements which declared that the highest offer would be accepted.

TRADE WITH TIBET.

The following is an extract from the report on the British Trade Agency at Yatung from the 1st April, 1908, to the 31st March, 1909:—

The total value of the import trade into India through the Chumbi Valley during the year 1908-1909 was Rs. 15,41,078, and of the export trade Rs. 14,02,340. These figures include treasure. The figures for 1907-1908 were: Imports Rs. 23,90,783, and exports Rs. 14,49,701. The trade of 1907-1908 was abnormally high owing to the passes being blocked in February and March, 1907, and merchandise (mostly wool), which would have been carried over in those months was obliged to wait till the passes were clear, and consequently the value accidentally came into the returns for 1907-1908 instead of 1906-1907. For this reason the apparent reduction of the volume of the trade is not real and the trade of the year is probably an increase on that of a normal year.

The returns for the year 1906-1907 were not kept. The largest import was raw wool, of which 46,236 maunds, valued at over seven and a half lakhs, were imported. Musk to the value of half a lakh was the next largest item. Cotton piece goods were the largest export, the value being Rs. 3,15,000, while woollen piece goods valued at two and a quarter lakhs were exported, and earthenware and porcelain worth a lakh and a quarter. This latter commodity comes mostly from China, and a few years ago before the sea route via Calcutta was used much by traders coming from China, this would have been carried overland. Four and three-quarter lakhs of treasure were imported, to a large extent by traders going to make purchase in China.

CANTON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT).

Tuesday, July 27th.

ANOTHER BROTHEL RAID.

A serious riot occurred yesterday in Tung Nam Kwan, an important brothel centre, in which many persons were injured. The brothels were raided, and many of the unfortunate girls were kidnapped. These riots are of frequent occurrence, and the brothel keepers have petitioned the Viceroy for the better policing of that quarter. The Viceroy has ordered a "Wei-yuan" to investigate the case and to report on it as soon as possible.

GAMBLING MONOPOLY.

Certain persons have petitioned the Viceroy to grant them a monopoly to open gambling houses in Canton, where card games, especially poker, will be played. Lui Tso Wong, an influential gentleman, whose name has been connected with the anti-gambling propaganda, has petitioned the Viceroy to discountenance such a monopoly. Recently American card games, especially "stud-poker," have taken a great hold on the people, rich and poor alike, and there is a great demand for English cards. The Viceroy has issued a proclamation prohibiting the playing of card games, and has ordered the police and other public officials to keep a sharp look-out, and to take stringent measures to suppress this additional vice.

THE DELIMITATION OF MACAO.

H.E. the Viceroy has telegraphed to Peking his approval of the efficient way in which H.E. Kao Erh Hin is conducting the negotiations in connection with the Macao Boundary Delimitation Question, and has expressed his opinion that, with the aid of an official of H. E. Kao's experience and tact, the negotiations will terminate with results satisfactory to all parties concerned.

THE VICEROY ENTERTAINED.

Admiral Li Tsun entertained H. E. Viceroy Chang to a farewell dinner last night. After the feast, which was a very grand and costly affair, there was a show of cinematograph pictures. H.E. the Viceroy was very much impressed by the exhibition, and congratulated the European operators on the good performance.

July 28th.

THE "TATSU-MARU'S" AMMUNITION.

Startling revelations have been made at the trial of a reformer at Kong Ning. Yung Kit, a native of Heungshan, and a Portuguese subject, was recently arrested at Shanghai on the charge of being a revolutionary. During the trial it was elicited that the ammunition on the *Tatsu-maru* was intended for the reformers under Dr. Sun Yat Sen, and had been ordered by two wealthy Chinese merchants of California, named Wong Fook Yu, and Sing Tin Hing. Many other influential persons are implicated, and the case is being followed with great interest. It will be remembered that the *Tatsu-maru* was seized by the Chinese Government, near Macao, and the subsequent release of the vessel with apologies to Japan was the cause of the recent disastrous boycott against Japanese goods.

PANIC AT THE VICEROY'S YAMEN.

A panic occurred last night at the Viceroy's Yamen, the cause of which was a defect in the electrical installation. The rumour rapidly spread that the Yamen was on fire, and within a very short time all the civil and military officials had assembled to render assistance. Repairs were rapidly completed, and the crowd, which had collected in force by this time, and which had expected to enjoy the spectacle of a grand conflagration, returned home disappointed.

EXECUTIONS: A HORRIBLE SIGHT

The 14 prisoners who escaped from the Shuntak Gaol were executed at the Nine Eyes Bridge a few days ago, and their bodies are still lying there, to the great detriment of traffic. The bridge is an important thoroughfare and the stench emanating from the decomposed bodies, especially pungent in the present hot weather, has prevented traffic across the river. The business men in the district have petitioned the Shuntak Magistrate for the early removal of the bodies, as it has affected business to a great extent.

THE NEW PORT OF HEUNGCHOW.

Steps are being taken for the early settlement of the newly-opened port of Heungchow. Over two hundred builders and others have been sent to make surveys with a view to the building of business houses and residences and to take soundings on the harbour. A prosperous future is predicted by the Chinese for this port.

July 29th.

FLOOD RELIEF SOCIETY.

The Flood Relief Society has sent in their report to His Excellency the Viceroy. The following is a brief résumé:

The Flood Relief Society was inaugurated in the summer of last year, directly after the occurrence of the disastrous flood. The object of the Society was to collect subscriptions, and with the money thus raised to procure provisions, etc., for the relief of the poor people who had suffered through the flood. In the autumn of the same year another flood occurred. Another canvass for subscriptions was started and bazaars were instituted in Canton, Hongkong and Macao. Relief was thereby afforded to millions of homeless and starving people. After spending all the money necessary there was a balance of nearly \$220,000. It was suggested that the money should be spent in dredging and widening the river, but this suggestion was rejected in favour of another for the building of a canal for the better egress of the water from Shuihing, through Sanning to Ngai Mun. It was, however, thought at the time that the funds were insufficient to afford the expense of engaging an experienced engineer to do the work. This difficulty was got over by Mr. Jones, Assistant Director of Public Works in Hongkong, kindly consenting to take charge of the work gratuitously. The departure on leave of the Director of Public Works, however, prevented Mr. Jones from undertaking the task soon enough. The Hongkong Government were then requested to approach the Indian Government with the view of the loan of an engineer from India.

They have now very generously lent Mr. Millson (?), an experienced marine engineer, for the work. Having regard to the generous spirit of the British Government, every facility should be afforded Mr. Millson in this good work.

The balance remaining at present after paying all expenses is \$116,173.63 in Canton, \$50,599.78 in Hongkong and \$51,435.99 in Macao. These amounts have been deposited in various banks to be kept till occasion requires.

EXPORT OF CATTLE.

The President of the local Board of Trade, and the Provincial Treasurer have petitioned the Viceroy as follows, respecting the exportation of cattle from China:—

"The exportation of cattle by Europeans has increased, and steps should be taken to ensure the supply being sufficient for the needs of the Chinese. Despatches should be sent to the British Government and the Commissioner of Customs, notifying them that hereafter the exportation of cattle is permitted only from Nam Hung, Lien Chow, Do Sing, Ling Shan and Wuchow. In those places only can cattle be purchased; and no purchase can be made without an outward transit pass, to be obtained from the Customs. Cattle can only be exported in batches of twenty or under; and the Prefects of these districts should be requested to send in reports of the annual export."

Cattle are exported to Hongkong in great numbers, and the Military Authorities get their supply of meat chiefly from these places.

DEPARTURE OF VICEROY CHANG.

This morning His Excellency Viceroy Chang departed from Canton on the Government cruiser *Sun Ming*. His Excellency had an unusual send-off. The streets from the Yamen to the wharf were lined by an enthusiastic crowd, who cheered as lustily as they could. All the officials, the British Consul-General, Mr. H. H. Fox, and other Foreign Consular officials were assembled to see the Viceroy off, and His Excellency had to spend a full hour receiving congratulations and good wishes. There is no doubt that he was a very popular official, and his departure is regretted by all in Canton.

GOLD MINING IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Steady progress seems to be made in the gold mining industry in the Benguet district of the Philippines, and it is predicted that Philippine gold-mining shares will become the gamble of the East. The Benguet gold mining district comprises an area of about twenty-five square miles, and for the past three or four years a number of syndicates have been steadily working at "claims" they have secured in the district. Some of the Companies, like Clarke's Consolidated, and the Bua Mining Co., are already well known to many of our readers. No dividends have yet been paid, we believe, by any company. The earnings of several of them have been good but work has been commenced in a small way, and the net earnings have been devoted to the development of the properties.

There is at present in Hongkong a gentleman who may be regarded as the pioneer of this enterprise in the Benguet district—Mr. H. P. Whitmarsh, who was the first Governor of the province. His mission is to raise capital for the development of the properties of the Headwaters Mining Co., which has twelve claims in this district totalling about 250 acres, more or less. This Company was organised by Mr. Whitmarsh, and its properties have been developed almost entirely by Hongkong capital. He informs us that about 3,000 feet of underground development has been done now and that approximately half a million dollars' worth of ore is in sight. The ore in the district is a low-grade ore, but according to the report of the experts the yield in the Headwaters mine is worth \$36 (Mex.) to the ton. The Company purposes crushing and treating by the cyanide process 60 tons of ore a day, or 1,800 tons a month. The cost of mining and milling is shown by other plants working in the same district to be slightly less than \$6 Mex. per ton, so that a handsome margin of profit is given.

The Headwaters Company was organised with a capital of \$600,000, half of which went to the original owners. \$100,000 worth of stock was placed on the market for the purpose of development and the remaining \$200,000 is now required for the purchase of plant, &c.

A MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE IN THE PHILIPPINES.

A correspondent writes to us concerning the insecurity of life and property in the Philippines, and gives the following as an instance:—

"After spending a few years in the Transvaal and another few years in Australia, Michael Basila arrived in the Philippine Islands to carry on business as a vendor of groceries. In March, 1908, he left Manila for the provinces with about 3,000 dollars worth of goods, leaving about an equal amount locked up on rented premises in Manila. Mr. Basila, who was a native of Alexanderatta (Skenderoon) and the father of five children, the eldest of whom is only twelve years of age, has never returned to Manila, though he expected to be away not more than a month. Nothing is known of his whereabouts, nor have any of the goods he carried with him been traced—although diligent search is said to have been instituted. The American Consul at Alexanderatta has in vain repeatedly asked the local authorities at Manila to furnish him with information about the missing man. Some of the missing man's relations are employed in the American Consulate there as interpreters and assistants. So far the mystery of Mr. Basila's disappearance still remains unsolved."

The friends of the missing man appear to have a further grievance against the official administrator with regard to the manner in which the property left in Manila has been disposed of. The goods are stated to have been disposed of at a mere fraction of their value. After payment of the few claims on the estate nothing remained to be remitted to the man's family.

That a foreign merchant travelling in the Philippines can so mysteriously disappear and that the authorities have failed to trace the property he carried with him, valued at \$3,000, is regarded as clear proof of the inefficiency of the administration in the provinces.

RAILWAYS AND TRAMWAYS IN NORTH CHINA.

The reports for 1907 and 1908 of the Imperial Railways, says a Consular report on the trade of Tientsin, of North China show that the Peking-Mukden line suffered by the general trade depression in 1907 and 1908; but in spite of agricultural distress and severe floods in 1908, the ratio of working expenses to earnings, which rose from 28 per cent. in 1906 to 37 per cent. in 1907, was kept down again to 28 per cent. in 1908. The directors in their report for the year ended September 30, 1908, make the following note on the Peking-Kalgan Railway: "The satisfactory financial returns from the Imperial Railways of North China have enabled us to make substantial annual payments from the surplus revenue to the directors of the new Peking-Kalgan Railway, and it is a pleasure to note that the construction of this new line makes steady progress, and when completed will form a permanent testimony to the financial success of our line. The Peking-Kalgan line is a very important extension of the communications of the Empire."

Within the last two or three years the system of tramways worked by the "Compagnie de Tramways et d'Eclairage électriques de Tientsin," a Belgian company, has been considerably extended. Originally designed only to make a circuit round the Chinese city along the boulevards formed by the demolition of the old city walls, an extension along the Chinese Bund, the system was carried across the river to the Austrian concession by a bridge opened in November, 1906; and in May, 1907, an agreement was concluded with the Japanese concession for running the line through the main street of that concession and thus providing a direct route between the foreign settlements and the Chinese city apart from the route through the Russian, Italian, and Austrian concessions on the other side of the river. Until this extension was carried out the tramways did not pay, but it is now believed that their success in the future is assured. There are between eight and nine miles open to traffic, nearly all double tracks. The receipts from the tramways alone are given as £13,120 in 1907 and £19,400 in 1908, but the Consul has been unable to ascertain the cost of working.

DEATH OF MR. H. W. FRASER.

The news of the death of Mr. H. W. Fraser, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, will be received with genuine regret by his many friends in this Colony. Mr. Fraser joined the Head Office staff in 1892, and for the following 14 years was well known, both here and in Japan, where he spent some portion of his time in the Far East.

He was an enthusiastic Scot and a prominent member of the Hongkong St. Andrew's Society, in which he was an office-bearer for many years, making himself deservedly popular by his unfailing courtesy and geniality. In 1906 he left the Colony, and since then he has been attached to the office of the Bank in New York. There he died after a gallant struggle against sickness lasting for nearly two months.

We feel sure that his many friends, most of whom had the pleasure of knowing Mrs. Fraser, will deeply sympathise with her in her sad bereavement.

DEATH OF MR. H. W. HINE.

We regret to record the death of Mr. H. W. Hine, of Canton, which occurred at the Peak Hospital yesterday morning. Mr. Hine had lived in Canton about twenty years. Originally he was with the firm of Messrs. Rowe & Co., silk merchants, but since the firm was merged into that of Messrs. Deacon and Co., he has been doing silk inspection on his own account, and had also held the posts of Secretary to the Municipal Council of the Shaméen and Canton Club. Death was due to heart failure following pneumonia. Mr. Hine was about forty years of age, and his premature death will be sincerely lamented by all who knew him. He leaves a widow, who is at present at Home, and we need hardly add that deep sympathy is felt for her in her sad bereavement.

SHIPPING NOTES.

The Osaka Shosen Kaisha has appealed for the setting aside of an execution levied on certain of its property under a judgment obtained against it by Mr. E. Appenzeller and four others, residing at Lancaster, Pa., U.S.A. It appears that the parties named sued the O.S.K. for compensation for the death of their father, who was drowned in June, 1902, when the *Kumogawa Maru* collided with the *Kiso Maru*. After three trials, in the local court, the Court of Appeal, and the Supreme Court, judgment was finally rendered in favour of the plaintiffs, who were awarded yen 140,000 damages. Certain movable property of the O.S.K. was thereupon attached and the object of the present suit is to nullify such attachment.

A case of considerable importance to those interested in shipping was decided last week in the German Consular Court at Shanghai, when an action at the instance of Melchers and Co., and the Norddeutscher Lloyd against Captain Goerz, owner and master of the s.s. *Ascania*, was dismissed. On the 19th of February last, when the *Ascania* was on a passage down the Yangtze she collided with and sank the hulk *Bremen*, owned by Messrs. Melchers and Co., at Chinkiang. An action against Goerz was accordingly instituted by Messrs. Melchers and Co., and the Norddeutscher Lloyd, the amounts claimed being Tls. 35,000 as the value of the hulk and Mks. 40,000 for the cargo. A large number of witnesses were heard, the Harbour-master and his assistance at Chinkiang being summoned, and also experts upon the practice in the river. It was shown that while proceeding down river the *Ascania* had taken a course between H.M.S. *Clio*, which was lying at anchor, and the hulks moored alongside the shore, her intention being to come to a stop in order to get the Custom's papers. Owing, however, to the nature of currents the *Ascania* was carried against the hulk *Bremen*, and as a consequence the latter was sunk and her cargo lost. Dr. Voigts appeared for the plaintiffs and Mr. R. Mahnfeldt for the defendant, and after hearing the speeches of counsel the court gave its decision in favour of the defendant, holding that he was not to blame for the collision, being quite justified in taking the passage he did.

The tonnage statistics of the Federated Malay States for 1908 show the remarkable increase of 43 per cent. on those for the preceding year. Sir William Taylor, Resident-General F.M.S., in his annual report, writes that, exclusive of native craft, there arrived in ports of the Federated Malay States during the year 1908, 4,402 vessels, with a tonnage of 1,333,639 tons, an increase of tonnage, as compared with 1907, of 43 per cent. At Port Swettenham 1,133 steam vessels of the registered tonnage of 819,483 tons entered during 1908, an increase of 276,967 tons as compared with 1907. The ocean-going steamers numbered 112, with a tonnage of 383,577 tons. There was also a large increase in the number and tonnage of native craft making use of the port, the figures for 1908 being 415 vessels and 11,603 tons. Steamships entered at Telok Anson numbered 659, with a tonnage of 139,227 tons, the tonnage being almost stationary as compared with 1907, but showing a decrease in the number of vessels of 34. The shipping trade of Port Dickson revived, somewhat, the number of steam vessels entered being 675, and their tonnage 254,999 tons, an increase of tonnage of 55,000 tons, due to the maintenance during the year of direct communication with Penang by the vessels of the Eastern Shipping Company. At Kuantan, on the east coast, the steam vessels entered were 266, with a tonnage of 26,419 tons, as compared with 246 vessels of 20,608 tons in the preceding year.

According to the Japanese papers, the Toyo Kisen Kaisha greatly suffered, like other steamship companies, from the economic conditions in America during the first half year, the dullness of trade on the Oriental lines and the continuance of the anti-Japanese boycott in South China. By reducing the personnel on land and sea, the Company has, however, saved Y. 300,000 for the first half year

and the deficit for the term may not exceed Y. 600,000. Taken in conjunction with the deficit for the previous half year, it makes a total of Y. 1,410,000. The Company's outlook is, however, not necessarily pessimistic for the last half year. The *Nichi Nichi* says that among the shareholders there is a movement aiming at the passing of a vote of want of confidence in the Board of Directors. It is alleged that Y800,000 was incurred in connection with the investigations on the South American services, but there still remains a doubt amongst the shareholders whether such a big loss had actually been incurred. There are said to exist not a few evidences that the interests of the mass of shareholders are made subservient to those of the directors. When new shares were issued last year, the shareholders acquiesced in the increase of capital without much studying the *pros and cons* of the proposed increase. The new shares so issued were guaranteed 12 per cent. preferential dividends. This pleased the shareholders at the time, but it must now be condemned as a reckless measure. When the shares were thereby forced up considerably some shareholders sold out their holdings either to escape their own losses or to enrich themselves in the transactions. The shareholders, says the *Nichi Nichi*, have decided to investigate the financial condition of the Company with a view to pass a vote of want of confidence on the present directors or otherwise. The directors are thus placed in a difficult position, especially as Y.2,000,000 debentures raised in the United States last year falls due in October, the conversion of the loan being impossible under the present condition of the Company and also because the Company has not as yet made any preparations to redeem the debentures at the maturity.

In the City of London Court, on 30th ult., before Judge Rentoul, K.C., Samuel Williams and Sons, Ltd., of Limestone, claimed £34 7s. for damage done to their dredger *Gleaner*, by what was described as the "terrible wash" of the *Kamo Maru*, a large Japanese mail boat in charge of the defendant, Mr. G. F. Payne, Trinity House pilot. The plaintiffs' case was that on March 11 the defendant brought the *Kamo Maru* up the river Thames at a dangerous speed of 12 miles an hour. The *Kamo Maru* was 480ft. long, 54ft. broad, drawing 22ft., and carrying nearly 9,000 tons of cargo from Japan. Her displacement was therefore considerable, and her wash damaged the plaintiffs' dredger. Mr. Nelson, for defendants, said that if Japanese steamers were to be blamed as the plaintiffs were doing, they would not come at all. The plaintiffs' damage resulted from the ordinary incidents of modern navigation of steamers of the size of the *Kamo Maru*. Steamers would assuredly get larger, and the Nippon Yusen Kaisha Line, which owned the steamer, attached importance to the case. The pile to which the dredger was attached was old. Mr. Stephens said there were some piles still in the river which were driven in in the time of Charles I., and they were still good. Judge Rentoul, K.C., found for the plaintiffs, with costs.

DIPLOMATS IN PEKING.

M. de Carcer, Spanish Minister, who has been in Peking since 1905, starts for home on July 26, leaving the position of *doyen* of the Diplomatic Corps to M. von Kuchinski, Austrian Minister. The British, Japanese, Austrian and Spanish Ministers are still in Peking, but other Ministers are away at Shanhaikwan, the summer resort. M. A. Delcoigne, *Chargé d'Affaires*, may also shortly leave Peking. Mr. H. D. Fletcher is the American *Chargé* since Mr. Rockhill's promotion to the Ambassadorship in Russia, and no new Plenipotentiary has yet been appointed. M. Pabst has been transferred to the Paris Foreign Office, and M. Margery, now in Siam, may not arrive in Peking until the end of this year. M. Boisanas is now the French *Chargé*. M. Oudenjik is the Dutch *Chargé* till the arrival of the Minister. Baron Sendal is now in Tokyo and M. Broderode is now the Portuguese *Chargé*. Owing to the absence of M. Wallenberg, M. Cronholm will shortly leave Tokyo to take charge of the Swedish Legation. — *Japan Herald*.

DEATH OF AN OLD ILOLO MERCHANT.

ALLEGED JOKES AT THE FUNERAL SERVICE.

Manila newspapers record the death of Mr. Archibald Buchanan, one of the oldest foreign residents of the Philippines. He passed quietly away sitting in his chair at the residence of Mr. George Gilchrist in Manila. Mr. Buchanan was a Scotchman, a native of Dundee, Scotland, and a well-known merchant in Iloilo. He was a trader chiefly in sugar and owned an estate in Negros Occidental. He had lived thirty years in the Philippines and was highly respected among the members of the British community and by all who knew him. Death is believed to have been caused by apoplexy or heart failure.

Mr. Buchanan was a single man and it is not known whether he leaves any near relatives. His affairs will be attended to by the British Consul.

Mr. H. M. Hill, chief engineer of the Luzon Sugar Refinery at Malabon, writes to the *Cablenews-American* as follows:—

Permit me as a fellow countryman of the late Archibald Buchanan to take exception to the manner in which Reverend S. B. Rossiter, of the Presbyterian Church, conducted his funeral yesterday afternoon at Dell's undertaking parlours. Instead of giving an appropriate funeral service he stood there before the corpse and started to tell jokes about Scotch ministers and Scotch elders, whereupon the chief mourner, Mr. George Gilchrist, who, I presume, had put the preacher up to such levity, pulled his whiskers and smiled. The honourable British Consul-General and a number of prominent Scotchmen were present. Not wishing to interfere with the service, such as it was, I got up and left the room at once. Before this Mr. Rossiter told all about how the late Mr. Buchanan had been found dead with a book in one hand and a cigar in the other. This was the only reference he made to the deceased, and said nothing about Christianity. It was an attempt at a lecture and not a funeral service, to my way of thinking. Then Gilchrist got up and thanked the preacher for what he had said, but added that he thought that the lamented Buchanan had gone to the place above, which fact Mr. Rossiter forgot to mention. All this time I was standing up in at the back of the room. After the service several Scotchmen agreed with me that it was more like a political meeting than a funeral service."

When asked for an explanation of this letter by a *Cablenews* reporter the Reverend Mr. Rossiter made the following statement for publication:

"Mr. Hill wholly misinterpreted what I said at the funeral service of Mr. Buchanan. The story I told was this:

"A Scotch minister at Newark, New Jersey, was frequently asked for financial assistance by young men who claimed to be Scotchmen and sons of elders of the kirk. The minister would then ask them to explain justification of faith, and their failure to do so disclosed their cupidity. But one young man thus interrogated burst into tears and gave the answer—Justification of faith is the act of God's free grace."

"That is the story I told, and I see nothing funny in it," continued Mr. Rossiter.

"I did not say anything about Mr. Buchanan's having a cigar in one hand when he died, although I told of his being found with his finger between the leaves of a magazine published in San Francisco."

TAOTAI JEME AND DR. MORRISON.

A report has been submitted by Taotai Jeme Tien-yow to the Yuchuanpu in regard to Dr. Morrison's letter in the *Times* criticizing the Chekiang and Kiangsu Railways. Taotai Jeme says that on account of the minute criticisms by *The Times* on the railway he carefully examined the works in his inspection of the line with Mr. Foord, and found that the statements made in that paper were one-sided, selfish, intended to mislead those unacquainted with engineering works, inaccurate and unfounded. He deals with the charges *seriatim*.

NOTES FROM JAPAN.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

TOKYO, July 16th.

THE NEWS FROM KOREA.

What passes as politics in Seoul has filtered through to Tokyo in scrappy uninformed journalistic dispatches during the past few days. As a matter of fact very serious events have been pending, but to the Japanese journalists this has seemed no more than a sort of private campaign among the various native ministers of state for certain seats in the Cabinet. The event shows that something very different has been happening. Last Saturday a garden party was given at the Residency-General, and this, doubtless to the surprise of everybody not in the confidence of Prince Ito and Viscount Sone, proved the prelude to a coup by which the Koreans' jurisdiction over their own affairs is further restricted. Shortly after the garden party, so we are informed, a conference was held at the Residency-General between Prince Ito, Viscount Sone, the Resident-General, the Premier Yi, and the Home Minister Pak. The two latter were asked to give their consent to two proposals, namely, the transfer to the Japanese administration of the machinery of justice, the native courts to be placed under the jurisdiction of the Japanese courts, and the abolition of the army department. The Korean statesmen replied that they could not give an immediate decision, as the matter was of too great importance, but promised to send an answer after consultation with other members of the Cabinet. That evening and the following day protracted conferences were held by the Korean Cabinet. The Ministers of War, Justice and Education were strongly opposed and no agreement being possible the ministers decided to resign.

Thus the agitation among politicians in Seoul during the past few days has not been caused by any local affair or dissension among native ministers, as appears to have been the belief of newspaper representatives there, but was rather the result of forebodings on the part of the ministers, amply realised on Saturday afternoon. On the Sunday the Premier and Home Minister again saw the Resident-General and reported the proceedings of the Cabinet. The Resident-General explained the necessity of the Japanese proposals both for the advantage of Korea and Japan, and requested the ministers to reconsider the matter. The latter finally gave way, and on Monday evening the memorandum I notified you of by cable was signed, to be followed by a formal agreement.

PRINCE ITO'S POSITION.

Some days prior to these events Prince Ito landed in Korea to say farewell to the Emperor, having cast off his mantle and ostensibly severed his connection with affairs in Korea. He was received in the capital, from the Emperor downwards, as a guest who is shortly to depart for good, and there was much entertainment and felicitation. That serious affairs of state should be sandwiched in between these affairs of ceremony has probably provoked as much surprise at Seoul as it would anywhere else, but while the outsider may smile at this example of Oriental diplomacy, the situation as it appears to the inhabitant of Seoul is more serious. We are informed that wild rumours are afloat and great uneasiness is felt by the public. A vigilant watch is kept by the Japanese and a large force of Japanese gendarmes is expected to arrive daily. These events show that the situation in Seoul is little different to-day from what it was when the protectorate was first created. Uneasiness and suspicion exist, in spite of all the pabulum we have been fed with in the past, and it is to be feared that there will never be anything else but suspicion so long as such methods are pursued by the Japanese. The changes advocated are doubtless for the good of the country, but it is, the way the changes are effected that gives offence to the unfortunate people. The Japanese can never make a success of Korea in an economic sense unless they gain the confidence and support of the Korean people, and Saturday's proceedings do not promise anything in this direction. As the Koreans understood it Prince Ito went to Seoul to say farewell to the Emperor; it was not a diplomatic mission. A Cabinet which has

never been anything but a collection of figure-heads is humiliated and the people are deeply offended. This, in plain words, is the situation to-day. No good that the Japanese administration can do is likely to eradicate the feeling of resentment created by such events as are just now taking place in Seoul.

THE HOLIDAYS AND WHERE TO GO.

We have just finished with a very trying wet season, and one of the meteorological officials predicted the summer heat is now with us in full power. Everything points to a long spell of real hot weather, but as these observations will not particularly interest readers in Hongkong, I had better at once say that we possess a distinct advantage over most centres of white population in the East in having a number of splendid places to go to in order to avoid the heat. Yet it is not everybody here who can get away in midsummer. The favoured classes, such as diplomats and missionaries, will always be found away from the torrid heat of the plains, but the merchant, the merchants' clerk, the newspaper man, and everyone whose living depends upon a daily production of work must stay in the cities, or at most can only steal a few days for a jaunt abroad.

There are other people, however, who are yearly making increasing use of Japanese summer resorts, and these are from China ports. During a recent visit to Nikko I was rather surprised to note a number of Chinese amahs with their foreign charges, and found that half the people in the hotel were from Shanghai. For many years the pleasant resorts near Nagasaki have been a favourite with Shanghai people, but now they are coming further east, and no better health-giving quarters could be chosen than Nikko, Hakone, or Karuizawa, all within a few hours of Tokyo.

THE PIONEER RESORT FINDER.

To the missionary must be given the credit of having selected some very pleasant places for spending the hot summer months. Those men, who when they come to the country, know they are settled here for a life-work—are not always hoping to go home "some day," as the average foreigner is—and consequently look about for some cool, elevated place where they may spend the summer vacation, which corresponds with the school vacation. Hence they have gathered together yearly at such resorts as Arima, near Kobe, and Karuizawa, near Tokyo. Of late years these centres, however, have been invaded by outsiders and the necessity has arisen for more pioneer work. The result is that the missionary will now also be found at Shimosuwa, one of the most romantic and lovely districts in the country, in the midst of the Japanese alps, where wild cats and other things that flourish remote from civilisation abound. Shimosuwa and Kamisuwa are pleasant towns surrounded by mountains and situated on Lake Suwa, which, as a glance at the map will show, is practically in the geographical centre of Japan. The district is remarkable for its hot springs. They bubble up everywhere, and in the severe winter-time they are of enormous service to the people, providing splendid baths at a temperature as high as 113 degrees and an ever-ready source of hot washing water. Although this lake district is still new to the foreigner its reputation is growing both as a summer and winter resort. The lake from January to March affords several miles of excellent skating, the snow-covered mountains are all that the most adventurous will require. In summer the temperature is never oppressive and the views are lovely.

But there are drawbacks to everything. It takes twelve hours over a distance of only ninety miles to reach Shimosuwa from Tokyo. Fifty tunnels are passed through, bogey cars are unknown. What with the jolting, the heat, the smoke in the tunnels, and the atmosphere created by the vittles consumed by the passengers—the Japanese are great eaters on railway journeys—it is no wonder that one might hesitate to go to Shimosuwa. And the traffic on this line is great, that is, the number of trains run is so small that they are always crowded, which is an additional unpleasantness. Neither is the passenger sure of being able to return from Shimosuwa, for railway running is not an exact science in Japan. A train is scheduled to leave Shimosuwa daily for Tokyo before six a.m. (the most convenient train), but this won't start unless there are passengers! One never realises how remote he is from

civilisation until he gets to a place like Shimosuwa. As for the transport of the mail, that's quite a secondary matter in Japan, and especially so in the Hida mountains! But perhaps the primitive life is just the thing for the blasé tourist, however the lack of enterprise shown by the railway authorities may injure the economic development of the country.

A MANIA FOR WASHING.

I had just finished the foregoing when the sound of scuffling proceeded from the rear quarters of my domain. Thinking my devoted cook was in the throes of a death struggle with some intruder I hurried thither and found him busily engaged in washing the cat! Trying in vain to get pussy's four legs into a bucket of water! Just previously the dog had enjoyed the process, for the thermometer is near 90, and the energetic cook decided to extend operations to the whole family. But he was not successful. A cat is the embodiment of dignity and resents an operation it can do so much better itself. With an effective use of its claws in a few moments puss was sunning and licking itself on the roof and the cook had learned a lesson. This people, indeed, has a mania for washing. The other day an old man was contentedly washing a decayed black alpaca umbrella at the roadside, looking the picture of domestic happiness. The principal occupation of maidservants throughout the day appears to be in washing something or other, and not the least important article washed daily is, of course, the rice itself. The Japanese certainly have a wholesome regard for water, but persons in possession of mahogany furniture and other articles that won't "take" this liquid have to be careful.

SERVICE AGREEMENT ACTIONS AT SHANGHAI.

An action of interest to many in the Far East came before Acting Judge Bourne in H. M. Supreme Court at Shanghai on July 23rd. Messrs. Atkinson and Dallas, architects, surveyors, etc., sought an interim injunction against H. G. Harmer, formerly in the employ of plaintiffs, restraining him from practising as an architect, engineer, surveyor, either on his own account, or in the employment of others in Shanghai, or any other place where the plaintiffs may for the time being have a permanent office to carry on business.

Defendant arrived in Shanghai in August, 1907, under agreement with plaintiffs, but having certain grievances left their service on June 30th, 1908. The defence was that the agreement was void.

His Lordship thought there was a defence to the action and refused the application for an interim injunction. If the plaintiffs suffered through the defendant being allowed to practise his profession for the short time prior to the trial of the action the injury could be made good by damages.

In the case of Heck v. Arnhold, Karberg and Co. judgment, the *Shanghai Mercury* says, was delivered on the 6th inst. in the German Supreme Court at Leipzig. The plaintiff had entered a position with defendants' Shanghai branch in 1906 on a three years' agreement, but was dismissed by them on the 15th October, 1907. He, therefore, brought an action for wrongful dismissal against his former employers in the German Consular Court at Shanghai, claiming \$4,918.05. This action was dismissed in the Shanghai Court on the 18th January, 1908, when plaintiff interposed the appeal to the German Supreme Court at Leipzig. The Supreme Court now has cancelled the judgment delivered in Shanghai and ordered the case to be re-heard in the German Consular Court.

White ants and their destructive inroads upon all manner of construction timber, a Manila paper says, are becoming a grave problem to the insular government, contractors, business concerns, and in fact, every property holder in Manila and other parts of the islands. Ever since the honeycombed condition of the old Oriente building became known the inspectors of the bureau of public works have been making careful investigations of other public buildings. Every public building they have been to thus far is more or less eaten by the ants.

COMPANY MEETING.

THE INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

The twenty-eighth ordinary general meeting of the above Company, 29, Cornhill, E.C., on the 29th ult., Mr. W. Keswick, M.P., Chairman, presiding.

The CHAIRMAN said:—One of our colleagues, Mr. Walter Fisher, is unfortunately not with us to-day, as he has been called to America for a short time. The Report which the Directors submit to you to-day, we again regret, shows an unsatisfactory result, the earnings of the steamers having for the year proved insufficient to meet the necessary outgoings. We are not singular in this experience, for the shipping industry throughout the year, and in all parts of the world, has been seriously affected by the severe depression that has prevailed. This is, of course, but poor consolation, and only shows how general has been the shrinkage in the employment of shipping. The President of the Chamber of Shipping in his inaugural address in February last described the position of the shipping trade in these words:—

"The depression which existed in the shipping industry during the year just past has been the worst for shipowners that they have ever experienced. Depression marked its opening, continued to its close, and is still continuing. In all directions the margin of profit on trading has been almost nil—even without taking into account the depreciation of property—and in many instances direct loss has been incurred.

"A momentary spurt in some particular trade has now and then taken place during last year which encouraged shipowners to look hopefully to the immediate future, but a short time afterwards their hopes were falsified and freights receded even to a lower depth than they had previously touched. Not only has this been the case with cargo steamers—passenger and cargo liners have also suffered." And I would ask you to refer to the Report of the Norddeutscher Lloyd to see that depression has extended also, and seemingly as severely, to other than British shipping. The outlook now, however, is less unsatisfactory than when we last met, for whereas it was then extremely difficult to obtain employment at remunerative rates of freight, we are now experiencing improvement which we trust will continue, as in our particular trades there has been considerable dispersion of superabundant tonnage, and prospects appear more reassuring.

We have made the same ample provision for the Depreciation of the fleet as on the last occasion and to do this and to provide for the outgoings of the year we have taken £80,000 from the Underwriting Account and we have again had recourse to the General Reserve Fund which is closed by the transfer of £10,000 to Profit and Loss. The transfer from the former account leaves a balance at credit of £143,891 18s. 11d., a sum more than sufficient to meet any conceivable call upon the fund for marine loss and averages. The various items in the Balance Sheet and Revenue Account do not, I think, call for special remark; we have had to meet the usual charges for the year, such as Interest on Debentures and General Expenditure Charges, which are much the same as for last year. We hope to be able, given more prosperous times, to deal more drastically with the writing down of the item which figures on the credit side of the Balance Sheet for debenture expenses. After meeting all outgoings, including Depreciation, the transfers made will enable us to carry forward £15,162 0s. 8d. to the new account.

It is a matter of regret to the Directors that they are unable to recommend the payment of a dividend on this occasion, but if the improved conditions I have alluded to continue, it may be found possible later in the year to pay a dividend on the Preferred Shares.

During the year there have been issued £11,000 of Debentures, which, with the amount previously issued and bonds for £60,000 placed with bankers and made available to meet possible requirements, represents in all £325,825.

I now touch upon the insurance question which, when we last met, was commented upon. In former years the Company ran a very substantial line in the underwriting account when rates of premium were materially higher than at present. Immunity from serious accident for many years permitted the accumulation of substantial balances at credit, which the Board regarded as a part of the profits made on that branch of their business as insurers of the Company's own steamers, and, from time to time, the account was drawn upon to supply a part of the Depreciation and to augment the general profit of the Company. In 1908, however, insurance competition became very keen and rates were reduced to so low a level that it became evident a change of policy was desirable. It was, therefore, decided to effect the insurance of the greater portion of the marine and fire risks with Lloyd's and the Companies, which was done at favourable rates of premium and the Company now takes only 15 per cent. of the marine insurance risks.

You will observe in the Report that the Board is, through a committee, examining and considering the heads of expenditure and organisation with a view to seeing if it be possible to effect economies in the working of the fleet. In these remarks I have endeavoured to place a clear statement of the Account and of the position before you. If, however, I have not succeeded in making any point clear or if I can give further information thereon I shall be happy to do so. I beg to move—"That the Report of the Directors and the Accounts for 1908 as presented be approved and passed."

Mr. E. BEAUCHAMP, M.P., seconded the adoption of the report, and a score of questions were then put by two shareholders.

Mr. HUMPHRIES suggested that there had been overbuilding, and said that if for various reasons profits were unattainable it would be better to wind up the company while its capital was still intact. He also suggested that the general managers, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., should be paid on the basis of a fixed sum annually and a handsome commission on the net profits instead of on the gross freights.

Another shareholder also asked a number of questions, suggesting that the agreement with the general managers should be altered, and expressed the opinion that Mr. Keswick, a partner in the firm, should resign the chairmanship of the company and make way for a younger man.

The CHAIRMAN, in his reply, said it would require very clear evidence to convince him that any economies had been disregarded which it was possible to observe in the efficient care of the business and the making of the utmost efforts to secure the best possible results. With regard to a question as to who inspired the partners of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., resident in Hongkong and Shanghai, to give out freely two months ago that no dividend would be paid, the speaker said he was absolutely ignorant of anything of the kind having taken place. When prosperity returned again to the shipping trade of the world, he continued, he had no doubt that there would be again a period of prosperity forthcoming for the company, and to wind it up would be a crime committed against British interests in China. As to the agreement with the general managers, any change would have to be effected by mutual consent, and it was certainly not the case that they were making unduly large earnings out of the company. The polite hint to himself to resign his position he should ignore unless it was the desire of the Board that someone else should occupy that position. He had fulfilled every duty which devolved upon him as chairman. He added that the company had not, in his opinion, done more than meet the requirements of trade so far as new ships were concerned.

The resolution was then put to the meeting and carried *nem. con.* Messrs. H. Humphreys and R. H. R. Burder abstaining from voting and desiring that the same should be recorded.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed that:—"The retiring Directors, Mr. W. Paterson and Mr. W. W. Dickinson, be re-elected," which was seconded by Mr. H. Beazley, and in response to a request of Mr. Burder that the Directors should be put up separately for re-election, he took the sense of the meeting on the proposition, which was adverse to the suggestion.

Mr. W. PATERSON defined his position as Director in a few remarks, and the motion was then put to the meeting and carried *nem. con.*

Mr. W. CUMIN SCOTT asked for how long improvement in steamer employment had been noticeable, and the Chairman stated that with the opening of the Northern season this year matters had taken a turn for the better.

Mr. R. G. ALFORD proposed that:—"The Auditors, Messrs. Turquand, Youngs & Co. be re-elected at the same remuneration as formerly," which was seconded by Mr. J. R. Michael and carried unanimously.

Mr. W. CUMIN SCOTT proposed a vote of thanks for the Chairman and the General Managers of the Company, adding that he did not personally know the gentleman who occupied the chair, but he had very great confidence in his holding that position.

Mr. M. L. HUTTON seconded the motion, which was unanimously accepted.

The CHAIRMAN suitably responded and the meeting then terminated.

COMPANY REPORT.

THE HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.

The Report of the board of directors to the ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders to be held on Tuesday, the 10th August, is as follows:—

The directors beg to submit to the shareholders the report and statement of accounts for the half-year ending 30th June last.

After paying running expenses, salaries, premia of insurance, repairs and all other charges there remains, including \$20,279.30 brought forward from last account, the sum of \$171,170.01 at credit of Profit and Loss account. From this amount the directors recommend that a dividend for the half-year of one dollar and twenty-five cents per share, or \$100,000, be paid to shareholders, \$20,000 be written off book value of steamers, \$10,000 be written off wharves and properties, \$0,000 be transferred to depreciation and insurance fund, \$10,000 to special repairs fund, leaving a balance of \$21,170.01 to be carried forward to new account.

The usual overhaul and repairs have been effected during the half-year and the steamers are all in good running order.

Messrs. G. FRIEHLAND and C. H. ROSS resigned their seats on leaving the Colony, and Messrs. J. W. BANDO and C. E. ANTON were nominated by the Directors to fill the vacancies subject to confirmation by the shareholders at this meeting.

In accordance with the Articles of Association Messrs. C. LENZMANN and H. E. TOMKINS retire from the board by rotation, but being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The retiring Auditors, Messrs. A. O'D. GOURDIN and W. HUTTON POTTS, offer themselves for re-election.

R. SHEWAN,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 20th July, 1909.

LIABILITIES.

Amount of capital, 80,000 shares of \$15 each fully paid up	\$1,200,000.00
Amount at credit of depreciation and insurance fund	607,500.00
Amount at credit of equalization of dividend fund	250,000.00
Amount at credit of investment fluctuation account	119,267.35
Amount at credit of special repairs fund	12,645.83
Unclaimed dividends	3,717.25
Sundry creditors	36,893.69
Bills payable	41,981.60
Amount at credit of profit and loss a/c	171,170.01
	\$2,443,175.73

ASSETS.

Value of steamers <i>Hon am, Heung-shan, Sui-An, Sui-Tai</i> and <i>Hoi Sang</i> , 3ths of <i>Kinshan</i> and 3rd of <i>Sainam, Nanning, Lintan</i> , and <i>Sanui</i>	\$1,063,000.00
Value of lighters <i>Sunlee</i> and <i>Wolee</i>	7,636.60

Value of wharves, hulk and moorings	143,308.17
Value of properties at Canton, Kongmun and Wuchow	127,146.77
Value of spare gear and stores	16,854.93
Value of furniture	1,000.00
Value of shares of public companies	654,578.25
Value of Chinese bonds	359.29
Loans on mortgage	322,000.00
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, current account	47,973.48
Interest accrued	794.50
Sundry debtors	18,791.57
Bills receivable	30,968.67
Marine and fire insurance premia unexpired	8,763.50
	<u>\$2,443,175.73</u>

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	
To amount paid repairs to steamers	\$ 29,288.99
To directors and auditors' fees	4,750.00
Balance to be appropriated, viz.:	
To dividend of \$1.25 per share on 80,000 shares	\$100,000.00
To be written off book value of steamers	20,000.00
To be written off book value of properties and wharves	10,000.00
To be carried to depreciation & insurance fund	10,000.00
To be carried to special repairs fund	10,000.00
To be carried forward to new account	21,170.01
	<u>171,170.01</u>
	\$205,209.01
Cr.	
By amount brought forward from last account	\$ 20,279.30
By net earnings of steamers	149,793.81
By interest on investments	35,025.39
By transfer fees	110.50
	<u>\$205,209.00</u>

DEPRECIATION AND INSURANCE FUND.

Dr.	
To balance	\$607,500.00
	<u>\$607,500.00</u>
Cr.	
By amount at credit	\$587,500.00
By amount brought forward from Profit and Loss account for half year ending 31st December, 1908.	20,000.00
	<u>\$607,500.00</u>

EQUALIZATION OF DIVIDEND FUND.

Dr.	
To balance	\$250,000.00
	<u>\$250,000.00</u>
Cr.	
By amount at credit	\$250,000.00
	<u>\$250,000.00</u>

SPECIAL REPAIRS FUND.

Dr.	
To sundry disbursements	\$12,698.98
To balance	\$12,645.83
	<u>\$25,344.81</u>
Cr.	
By amount at credit	\$ 5,344.81
By amount brought forward from Profit and Loss account for half year ending 31st December, 1908.	\$20,000.00
	<u>\$25,344.81</u>

HALF-YEARLY DIVIDENDS.

We are officially informed that, subject to audit, the Directors of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd., will recommend at the forthcoming meeting a dividend of 3 per cent. = \$1.50 per share.

CHINA'S TRADE IN 1908.

Mr. J. L. Chalmers, Statistical Secretary of the Imperial Maritime Customs, in reviewing the trade of China as a whole for the year 1908 writes:—

GENERAL.

The hope of a revival of foreign trade, which seemed to be justified on a review of the conditions prevailing in the beginning of 1908, was not realised. Depression reigned almost universally from the beginning of the year to its close. The continuous fall in the value of silver was discouraging to the import trade in general, and in the already languid state of the market, it played an important part in the history of an unprofitable year. But the foreign trade has always had to reckon with the uncertainties of exchange, which when unfavourable to one branch of the trade is favourable to another, as shown by the record value of exports in 1908; and other causes must be sought to explain the absence of demand for foreign goods in the face of a flourishing export trade, since it cannot yet be adequately accounted for by the development of home industries, considerable as that development has been. Among these causes the high price of rice was still prominent, in spite of the good harvests of the preceding year and the continued importations from Indo-China. A great improvement, however, has been seen in this respect since the middle of 1908. The retail price of the best Kiangsu rice at Shanghai, which in August was \$5.80 a picul, fell to \$4 at the end of December, and at the present date is about \$3.40; and it may be assumed that a similar cheapening of this necessary article has taken place in all districts that are easily accessible by water transport. At Yochow in September the price per picul is reported to have been \$2.20, and at Chungking in the same month it was \$2.50. Another and more serious obstacle to free interchange was the depreciation of copper coins, due in certain districts to scarcity of silver, but in general to the excessive outturn from the Mints. The value of these coins fell steadily, and at the close of the year one dollar exchanged for 135 copper cents (10-cash pieces) on the Middle Yangtze, for 126 on the Lower Yangtze, and for 128 at Chefoo, while the rates reported from southern maritime provinces vary from 110 to 117. This, as closely touching the great mass of the people, appears to be one of the most serious aspects of the currency problem—a problem which, from all points of view, calls urgently for solution. But while according full value to these and other reasons for commercial depression, it will probably be right to recognise in the reduced surplus of imports over exports a natural and healthy effort to readjust expenditure to income. In 1905 the "war remittances," estimated by Mr. H. B. Morse at a possible Hk. Tls. 150,000,000, gave to the import trade an impulse which continued to be felt after the special conditions to which it owed its origin had disappeared, with the result that importations were largely in excess of market requirements and have been disposed of with ever-increasing difficulty and loss. The vigorous condition of the export trade and the progress being made in the creation of manufacturing industries are of the best augury for the future. Shanghai distributed in 1908, 350,000 piculs of cotton yarn from local mills, valued at Hk. Tls. 8,772,000, or some 88 per cent. more than in 1907, while the distribution to ports of Shanghai Mill flour was 753,180 piculs; valued at Hk. Tls. 2,717,000, or 38 per cent. more than in 1907. Hankow gives details of a great activity, especially in the production of iron and steel at the Hanyang Ironworks from Tayeh ore and of coal from the Pingsiang mines. There is no doubt that in the next few years China will make strides towards the position as an industrial nation for which she is destined by virtue of her natural resources and the character of her people, and to this end education as well as official encouragement should be directed. Too much is heard of adulteration, of watered cotton, slaty coal, and dirty wheat; and the splendid tea and silk trades are being endangered by the retention of primitive methods of production in the face of a formidable foreign competition.

THE OPIUM CAMPAIGN.

The year witnessed the prosecution by the provincial authorities of a determined campaign against the cultivation of the opium poppy, the effects of which campaign cannot fail to be reflected in foreign trade in the near future. That the effects will be good in the long run seems also certain; but immediate prohibition must, in proportion to its success, disorganise trade for a time in the opium-growing provinces, whose total income from the poppy can hardly be less than 100,000,000, and may be more than 150,000,000, taels. The belief was strongly held by influential Viceroys that the 10-years' limit allowed by the original Edict for the extinction of opium cultivation was too long, and by encouraging procrastination until the undoubted popular enthusiasm for reform should have died down would in the end increase rather than diminish the administrative difficulties of the undertaking. In accordance with this view the immediate eradication of the poppy is now the declared policy in 13 provinces, and in these it is promised that the production of opium will cease in 1909, while in others its suppression is to take from one to two years longer. Reports from the various provinces leave no room to doubt the vigour and reality of this reform or the earnestness with which the people are backing the anti-opium movement generally; and even if the task of the Government should not be fulfilled within the allotted time, it may be hoped that the success attained will be such as to bring final victory well within sight.

VALUE OF FOREIGN TRADE.

Next follows a review of the Railway situation and then a brief account of the commercial outlook in the provinces, after which the report proceeds:—

"The direct foreign trade for the year gives a net value of H.K. Tls. 671,195,881, as compared with H.K. Tls. 980,782,066 in 1907; and it consists of imports to the value of H.K. Tls. 394,505,478 and exports to the value of H.K. Tls. 270,660,403, compared with H.K. Tls. 416,401,369, and H.K. Tls. 564,380,697 respectively in 1907."

SHIPPING.

With regard to Shipping Mr. Chalmers reports:—

Entries and clearances totalled 207,605—steamers, sailing vessels, and junks—and the falling off, as compared with the figures for 1907, of 10,327, was due to the smaller number of junks recorded at Mengtsz, Kowloon, and Shanghai. The total tonnage, 83,991,580 tons, was, nevertheless, once more the largest on record, showing an increase of 3,881,865 tons. At Dairen there was an addition of 1,389,000 tons, and at the Yangtze ports an addition of 2,787,000 tons. Tonnage under the British flag increased by 1,089,000, and, with a total of 34,405,761 tons, was 41 per cent. of the whole; while the Japanese flag with a total of 18,055,138, or 21.5 per cent. of the whole, shows a gain of 2,456,925 tons, of which 1,103,000 tons were added at Dairen. French shipping increased by 360,000 tons, principally at Yangtze ports, showing a total of 5,071,689 tons, and under the Chinese flag 400,000 tons were gained by steamers, while junks lost 140,000 tons. In China, as elsewhere there has been an over supply of tonnage, resulting from the excessive shipbuilding of recent years, and freights have been low.

BALANCE OF TRADE.

The value of net foreign imports (c.i.f. value) exceeded that of exports abroad (f.o.b. value) by Hk. Tls. 117,845,075, or 42½ per cent., as compared with 74 per cent. in 1907, 75 per cent. in 1906, and 97 per cent. in 1905. The excess of imports over exports is thus being reduced each year, and it is now in fact smaller than in any year since 1900. Deduct, further, the net export of treasure, and the balance of liabilities in the trade of 1908 is reduced to Hk. Tls. 105,230,640. To the report for 1904 there was appended an estimate for 1903 of China's commercial assets and liabilities, which considering the many intricate problems involved and the insufficiency of reliable data, was probably as close as approximation to fact as was then attainable. In the lapse of five years much has been changed, and a revised estimate, were it possible to offer one here, would no doubt show considerable additions under certain headings and deductions under others. It is, for example, probable, on the side of liabilities, that expen-

diture on Chinese Embassies and Consulates abroad and by Chinese students and travellers abroad has increased, and it is certain that the estimated expenditure on munitions of war in 1903 is much too high for 1908; while on the side of assets, reductions would probably have to be made in the estimates of foreign money spent on developing railways and maintaining foreign garrisons, and additions to the estimated income from Chinese emigrants abroad would perhaps be necessary. I assume, however, that the net result of a revised estimate would still be sufficiently near the original estimate to justify the use of the latter in an attempt to strike a balance. On this assumption, and adopting once more the figures for invisible liabilities and assets used in the last two reports, the account would stand as follows:—

LIABILITIES.	
Value of merchandise imported in 1908	Hk. Tls. 394,505,478
Loans and indemnities	51,000,000
Invisible liabilities	32,000,000
	477,505,478
ASSETS.	
Value of merchandise exported in 1908	Hk. Tls. 276,660,403
Net export of treasure from commercial area	12,614,435
Invisible assets	147,000,000
	436,294,838
Difference to be Accounted for	Hk. Tls. 41,230,640

EXCHANGE.
After the remarkable drop of 7 pence in the sterling value of the Shanghai tael during the last quarter of 1907, the exchange diagram for 1908 indicates a return to comparative steadiness. The demand value of the tael, beginning the year at 29.9 61 pence, rose in January to 31.1 16 pence, its highest point, and then fell gradually to 26.7 16 pence in December, recovering, however, to 27.9 16 pence before the close of the year. Depression in India and short purchases by the Indian and other Governments are the reasons generally assigned for the low price of silver. It is anticipated that a number of silver mines will have to be closed unless the price of this metal improves, and the production of gold is still increasing. According to an estimate of the *Engineering and Mining Journal* of New York the value of the gold produced throughout the world in 1908 was 88 million pounds sterling, as against 83 million in 1907.

THE CHINESE COFFIN TREE.

Among the most valuable products of China which have so far remained a monopoly of the Chinese Empire is the beautiful and valuable wood known as Nanmu (Chinese Coffin-tree). Many efforts, says Mr. Dunn, the Superintendent of the Botanical and Forestry Department, have been made to obtain a supply of living plants for other countries interested in forestry and with suitable climates, but so far, to the best of my knowledge, without success. There is an old tree in the Hongkong Botanic Gardens which was sent by Mr. Watters, then British Consul at Ichang, some 30 or 40 years ago. A few score of layers were taken from it while young and planted on Mt. Gough in 1883. It is impossible to find these trees again with the scanty information preserved, and if still surviving they probably resemble the tree in the Gardens in not ripening fruit and in being too old to provide layers. During the last two years a considerable amount of correspondence has been carried out with Consuls and others in Szechuan and Yunnan, the provinces in which the tree occurs, with the object of getting seeds. Through the kindness and perseverance of Mr. Fox (until recently British Consul at Cheng-tu) and of Mr. Tyman, and after some failures, two consignments of seeds have during the year been received by this Department. The length of time occupied in the journey from Cheng-tu is evidently from the condition of the seeds, nearly the limit for its safe transport and they were immediately sown on arrival. Two crops have thus been raised and it is hoped to transmit living plants in due course to various other Colonies which require them.

FAR EASTERN TELEGRAMS.

THE JOHORE PIRACY.

Singapore, July 23rd.

Three of the pirates, who plundered a Chinese junk near Johore on April 19th, have been sentenced to death in the Singapore Court. The jurisdiction of the Court has been challenged and the points of the protest will be submitted to the Full Court of Judges in August.

EXPLOSION ON A JAPANESE BATTLESHIP.

Tokyo, July 26th.

An explosion occurred on the battleship *Asahi* during gun practice at Ise Bay on Sunday, in which five men were killed and five injured.

PRATAS ISLAND AFFAIR.

HITCH IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.

Tokyo, July 27th.

A hitch has taken place in the negotiations with regard to Pratas Island. China counter-claims for \$170,000 against Japan's \$500,000. China's attitude on pending questions in Manchuria is productive of uneasy rumours, affecting the share market.

CHINESE ATTACK ON POLICE.

A FIERCE COMBAT AT KUALA LUMPUR.

Singapore, July 27th.

A crowd of Chinese clad in red assembled at a temple in Kuala Lumpur and fired upon the police as they approached.

Fighting of the fiercest description ensued, four Chinese being killed and several wounded. A Sikh constable was wounded in the chest and a European Inspector was injured badly.

The Chinese are supposed to have been members of a Secret Society.

Twenty-five arrests have been made.

S.S. "ANDALUSIA" AGROUND.

Tokyo, July 29th.

The Hamburg-American liner *Andalusia*, ran aground at the entrance to Tokyo Bay. The prospects of refloating the vessel are hopeful.

Tokyo, July 30th.

The Hamburg-American liner *Andalusia*, which ran aground at the entrance to Tokyo Bay, has been refloated, and has arrived safely at Yokohama.

COMMERCIAL DEPRESSION IN JAPAN.

A White Paper on the trade of Japan published at the end of last month in London states that last year's foreign trade was marked by a depression and stagnation such as have never been witnessed since the opening of the ports of Japan to foreign trade. To say that it was disastrous to practically all concerned is no exaggeration and, apart from failures of foreign commercial establishments, happily not British, most importing firms lost money. A combination of unfavourable circumstances, is and out of Japan, brought about this state of affairs. As a result of the development of the country after the war, the year 1907 showed an unprecedented amount of trade, and a comparison with that year's figures is hardly fair. Soon after the beginning of 1908 a business depression set in, gradually increasing in severity. Enterprises already begun were abandoned and purchases of material given up at a loss. What with trade depression in North China, the boycott of Japanese goods in South China, the fall in silver, financial depression abroad and and political apprehension at home directly affecting the money market, trade never had the slightest chance and went from bad to worse. In the boom of 1906-7 it is feared orders were somewhat recklessly booked. For a year, or possibly two, things will not have sufficiently adjusted themselves to permit of a thorough improvement.

PLAGUE PREVENTION WORK AT SHANGHAI.

Dr. Stanley, the Shanghai Medical Officer of Health, in his report to the Municipal Council for the month of June says:—

As regards plague among rats the improvement has been most marked—one plague-infected rat only having been found among 1,598 rats found dead and examined in the Laboratory during the month. No human cases have been reported.

Comparative Monthly Figures

	Rats examined	Plague infected	Per cent. infected
December	1,359	50	3.7
January	1,118	26	2.3
February	1,375	30	2.2
March	2,585	41	1.6
April	1,897	21	1.1
May	1,780	10	0.6
June	1,598	1	—

The cause of this fortunate condition may be found in the following summary of work undertaken since the discovery of plague-infected rats in December last:

Rats examined in the Laboratory	12,421
Rats trapped	32,446
Rats poisoned (estimated)	200,000
Poisoned baits laid	4,125,724
Amount of poison used	1½ tons
Houses rendered temporarily rat-proof	9,296

I feel it my duty to point out, in fairness to the whole foreign staff of the Health Office and Laboratory and in appreciation of their loyal and conscientious services, that this special plague-prevention work has been undertaken in addition to the normal work of the Department, a point which calls for special consideration.

Having practically freed the Settlement of plague-infected rats it now becomes necessary to see whether further steps can be taken to ensure that plague-infected rats will not again be introduced by ships from plague-infected ports. If nothing further can be done by the Port Health Authority—the Imperial Chinese Maritime Customs—it will be advisable to make the plague-prevention staff, as at present organized, a permanent one. It would, however, appear desirable that ships coming from plague-infected ports should be required to present a certificate of freedom from rats, that precautions be taken in the harbour in unloading such ships and that a Health Officer, acquainted with modern Port Health Work, be appointed to organize such preventive work in the harbour, in addition to the work at present being done at the Woosung Sanitary Station.

JAPANESE INSURANCE.

There are few more remarkable developments in connection with modern Japan than the rapid growth of the insurance business in the country. It was after the China-Japanese war that insurance began to make such rapid strides, and since 1900 the progress has been almost phenomenal. Nine years ago the amount of the life contracts was about 19½ millions sterling, and the fire contracts 33 millions sterling. The last returns showed that life contracts were over 35 millions sterling and fire contracts no less than 150 millions sterling. These figures do not include the risks by foreign insurance companies in Japan, which, according to the last returns, amounted to nearly 3½ millions in the case of life and 25 millions in the case of fire. Marine business is a more recent development. Seven years ago the risks were scarcely two millions sterling. The amount has now increased to nearly four times that amount. We have mentioned merely three classes of insurance, but other forms of insurance have made headway, though to nothing like the same extent. With such a boom in insurance, there were bound to spring up mushroom concerns whose stability was open to the gravest question, and Japan has had its insurance scandals. But the result has been more effective Government supervision, so that these scandals, though severe loss has been inflicted on policy-holders, have really been a blessing in disguise.

COMMERCIAL

IMPORTS:—

RICE.

HONGKONG, 2nd August:—The prices are advancing, market being brisk.

Saigon, Ordinary	\$4.85	to	\$4.90
" Bount, Good quality	4.91	to	4.95
" Long	5.00	to	5.05
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	5.10	to	5.15
" Garden, No. 1	5.00	to	5.05
" White	5.15	to	5.20
" Fine Cargo	5.25	to	5.30

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, August 2nd.

Quotations are:—

Malwa New	\$1,140/1,160	per picul.
Malwa Old	\$1,170/1,200	do.
Malwa Older	\$1,210/1,250	do.
Malwa Very Old	\$1,260/1,300	do.
Persian Fine Quality	\$1,080/1,100	do.
Persian Extra Fine	\$950/1,000	do.
Patna New	\$955	per chest.
Patna Old	\$—	do.
Benares New	\$980	do.
Benares Old	\$975	do.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noël, Murray & Co. in their Piece Goods Report, dated Shanghai 23rd July, 1909, state:—The market has ruled exceedingly quiet throughout the interval, and is likely to continue so, if it is correct that only about one third of the purchases made during the last few weeks have been shipped as yet to the consuming districts. It is true there is a good deal of enquiry, but would-be buyers do not appreciate the very wide margin there is between their offers and the cost of replacing. This is not altogether surprising when it is considered that there is a difference of fully 5% between what some holders are asking and others are willing to sell similar goods at. Such incongruities in the market are most disconcerting, and quite up set the standing of the oldest chop. At the same time we have never found it so difficult to discover what is actually going on, importers being very jealous of other finding out what they are doing. Some light has been thrown on the excessive exports of Plain Cottons from Manchester by the receipt of Messrs George Robinson & Co.'s statistics for June, which show that it is largely caused by the great increase in the Exports to Hongkong, which show an excess of 90% for the two months ending 30th June 1909, against an increase of 22% on similar shipments to Shanghai. And both in Dyed and Printed goods the shipments to the Colony are much more commensurate with those of recent years than the Shanghai figures are. That the future is likely to show considerable curtailment in supplies is pretty well assured. Recent advices received state that many Mills have already commenced working short time and others are seriously contemplating following the same course, or closing altogether for the time being. It is not only for China that trade is falling off, for almost every Country, except China in Plain Cottons, show a serious decrease in the figures for the year ending 30th June. The fluctuations that have taken place in the price of Cotton on the home markets would seem to indicate that speculators are at work again, the ups and downs in New York being very drastic, especially. The effect has been to cause Manufacturers to be firmer than ever, an instance being given of a cloth bought in March and now arriving here, being now quoted 11½% higher! The news from the Out-ports is not encouraging. The water at Hankow is reported to be a foot over the Bund, and Shashi is actually under water. In this neighbourhood there is a spell of terribly hot weather which must to a great extent interfere with business. The dealers are still waiting to hear from Tientsin and Newchwang before investing any more in American goods, which are nominally very strong at the prices quoted last week, or even higher, but transactions have been on a retail scale. The Manchester market is so much above this for staple goods it is impossible to connect, but a quiet business is passing in miscellaneous lines of Fancy millies, which seem to be available here and there at quite workable prices. The Liverpool Cotton market after some fluctuations has recovered to 6.65d. Mid American "spot," forward rates received being 6.39d July and 6.31d. November/December. Egyptian is unchanged at 9½d. New York presents a very firm market quotations for all goods being up in the skies,

although Cotton is so much easier, the latest quotations current being 11.84 cents for August. The market for Indian Yarn is at a standstill owing to the great difference between the views of buyers and sellers, the former considering the limit has been more than reached. Japanese Spinnings are saleable, however, to a moderate extent at current rates. It is said a transaction involving the sale of 1,000 bales of one of the Local Mills production has been booked on private terms. The Native Cotton crop is not shipping very well, in consequence of which holders are raising their prices. Business, from first hands cannot have been very extensive, but absolutely nothing is reported, the poor prices received if anything is done no doubt deterring sellers from making the quotation public, as the sale may probably be made for the purpose of introducing a new chop. Interest has been chiefly centred on the Auctions which have presented a strange contrast in twenty-four hours. Up to yesterday prices were keeping quite steady to firm as compared with last week, but at this morning's Auction a general slump seems to have set in, there being scarcely one redeeming feature about the sale. With the exception perhaps of Lastings, Woollen goods were equally as disappointing as Cotton fabrics. Stocks.—Since writing the above, we have made some personal enquiries and have discovered omissions in the Returns to the following extent, and we therefore correct our figures accordingly, as they are perfectly genuine and reliable, the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce confirming the fact that they had not been included in the Returns published. Grey Shirts: 8.4 lbs. 5,000 prices, 10 lbs. 10,000 12 lbs. 12,000; White Shirts 5,000 Turkey Rdds 32,600 prices, East Black Italians 9,000 prices.

EXPORTS:—

TEA

HANKOW, 22nd July—Business reported since the 14th inst. is as under:—

	1909.	1908.
Settlements	4-chests. 8,855	4-chests. 14,749
Consisting of the following Teas:—		
Ningchows	829 .. 19.00	2,350 ..
Oopacks	738 .. 9.25	2,000 ..
Oonams	1,639 .. 9.25	1,325 ..
Oonfaas	2,005 .. 13.50	1,690 ..
Seang-tams	3,556 .. 8.00	1,100 ..
Ichangs	88 .. —	3,075 ..

The following are Statistics at date compared, with the corresponding circular of last season, viz. 22nd July, 1908:—

	1909.	1908.
HANKOW TEA	4-chests	4-chests
Settlements	399,816	480,418
Stock	47,152	16,661
Arrivals	348,968	557,080
KIUKIANG TEA	4-chests	4-chests
Settlements	185,517	175,957
Stock	10,222	22,588
Arrivals	203,739	798,715

Comparative Quotations per as under:—

	1909.	1908.
Ningchows, Tls. 13.25 at 100.00 Tls. 15.50 at 100.00		
Khemuns	23.00 .. 12.00	21.00 .. 57.00
Hohows	— .. —	19.00 .. 24.50
Kutoans	22.00 .. 26.00	32.50 .. 28.00
Wen-chows	— .. —	19.50 .. 23.00
Oopacks	9.00 .. 25.00	11.95 .. 26.00
Oonams	75.0 .. 25.00	12.75 .. 28.00
Oonfaas	12.70 .. 35.00	13.30 .. 36.00
Seang-tams	8.00 .. 12.00	12.50 .. 18.50
Ichangs	30.00 .. 61.50	27.00 .. 65.00

The export to 17th instant, as per Customs Returns stands thus:—

	Hankow	Kiukiang
Saeson 1909-1910...	6,629,855 lbs.	3,193,157 lbs.
Vai Shanghai, Total 1909/10		
To Great Britain	2,399,003 lbs.	
" United States and Canada	2,032,516 "	
" Continent	1,896,987 "	
" Russia in Europe	19,523 "	
" Russia via North	84 "	
" Shanghai	1,461,092 "	
Direct 1909,		
United States	442,303 lbs.	
Great Britain	1,716,204 "	
Continent	22,689 "	
Russia in Europe	6,612,328 "	
Russia in Asia	12,555,576 "	

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per M. M. steamer *Armand Behic*, sailed on 20th July. For Marseilles—84 bales soie, 100 bales dechats de soie, 3 caisses broderies, 2 caisses soieries, 16 caisses plumes, 46 colis cheveux, 1 caisse nacre, 100 bales chanvre, 1 caisse chapeaux. For St. Chamond—10 bales soie. For Lyons—358 bales soie. For Taitouse—1 caisse broderies. For Havre—1 caisse tambours, 34 caisses po celaine. For London—71 caisses provisions, 25 bales dechats de soie. For Hamburg—1 caisse plumes.

Per P. & O. steamer *Delta*, sailed on 4th July. For Manchester—100 bales waste silk. For Gibraltar—2 cases silk goods, 1 case ivory ware. For Milan—10 bales raw silk. For St. Chamond—10 bales raw silk. Havre—3 bales tea mats. For Lyons—462 bales raw silk. For London—100 bales waste silk, 63 bales raw silk, 2 cases silk, 26 h/c tea, 26 cases chinaware, 12 cases Chinese ink, 200 rolls matting, 23 bales nacreous shells. For Marseilles—350 bales waste silk, 70 bales raw silk, 3 cases tea mats, 3 cases feather.

HONGKONG SHARE QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 30th July, 1909.—The market continues dull, but a fair business has been transacted in a few of the local stocks, and also in Rubber shares. Rates generally are inclined to weakness and most of our local stocks are neglected. Exchange on London T/T closes at 1/8 13/16, and on Shanghai 74½.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have continued to rule strong, and in the absence of sellers the rate has further improved, after sales at 1,005, and 1,010 to 1,012½, at which last rate the market closes firm. The London quotation last to hand is £93. Nationals are now in request at 57, but with no shares obtainable.

MARINE INSURANCE.—Unions with a continued small demand have advanced to 830 with small sales, and at the close a few small lots could be placed at that rate. North Chinas have improved to 120, with sales, and further offers to sell at that rate would meet with a ready buying response. Some odd lots of Cantons have changed hands at 195. We have nothing further to report under this heading.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong have found buyers at 345, and a few more shares could be placed at that rate. Chinas have weakened a little and at time of closing shares are obtainable at 116½.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have ruled very steady, with sales at 32½ and 33, closing steady at the latter rate. Indos have declined to 63 without business, and in Shanghai sales are reported at 43 Tls. London's last quoted rate is £5, 15/ 9bells improved to 74/ with sales and close steady to firm at 73/ 1. We have no further changes or business to report under this heading.

REFINERIES.—Sales of China Sugars have been reported at 14½, and 140, and at time of closing sellers at 14½ rule the market. Luzons after sales at the improved rate of 18 close with sellers at that.

MINING.—With the exception of a fall in Raubs to 8, with sellers, and of Chinese Engineerings to 18½ we have nothing to report under this heading.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks on an announcement of \$1½ dividend for the half year ended 30th June, and apparently with no provision for writing off, or reserve fund, have suffered a further decline and after several sales at 66 in the early part of the week have gradually declined to 62, at which rate sellers rule the market at the close. Sellers forward fail to find any buyers. Kowloon Wharfs have also ruled weaker and after very small sales at 58 close with sellers at 57½. Shanghai Docks have declined in the North to 80, with no local sales to report, and Hongkew Wharfs have fallen to 148, after ruling the greater part of the week at 150.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands show signs of weakness and small sales were effected in the early part of the week at 107, the market closing with sellers at that rate and no buyers over 106. West Points remain neglected and without t-

business. Hongkong Hotels continue in demand at 73 (old) and 43 (new) without any sales to report. Humphreys have found buyers at 10 but close with sellers at that rate Shanghai Lands have ruled steady at 118 ex div.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkong have changed hands at 8, and further shares are obtainable at that rate. Ewos have been very steady in the North between 133 and 135, closing at 134½. Soy Chee have improved to 407 with buyers.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Small sales of China Provs at 9.60. Union Water Boats at 11, Cements at 8.80 Ices at 195 and Electrics at 204 is all the business we have to report under this heading, other stocks remaining without business or any material changes.

Quotations are as follows:—

STOCKS	PAID UP	QUOTATIONS
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$1,012½
National B. of China	£6	\$57, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A....	12/6d.	\$104, buyers
China-Borneo Co.....	\$12	\$134, sellers
China Light & P. Co....	\$10	\$6.70, sellers
China Provident	\$10	\$9.60, sales
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo Cotton S. & W.	Tls. 50	Tls. 134½
Hongkong C. S. Co.	\$10	\$8, sales & sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 92
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 113
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 407
Dairy Farm Co.....	\$6	\$161, buyers
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$58, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$62, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$61	\$9
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd	Tls. 100	Tls. 80
S'hai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 148
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$11, sellers
G. Island Cement Co	\$10	\$8.80, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas...	£10	\$210, buyers
Hongkong Electric...	\$10	\$204
Hongkong Hotel Co. {	\$50	\$73, (old) buy.
Hongkong Ice Co.....	\$25	\$43, buyers
H'kong Rope M. Co....	\$25	\$195, sales
H'kong Rope M. Co....	\$10	\$24
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$195, sales & sel.
China Fire	\$20	\$116, sales
China Traders	\$25	\$8, buyers
Hongkong Fire.....	\$50	\$345, sale
North China	£5	Tls. 120, sal. & b.
Union	\$100	\$830, sales & buy.
Yangtze	\$60	\$225
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$107, sellers
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$94, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$30, sellers
Shanghai Land.....	Tls. 50	Tls. 118
West Point Building	\$50	\$46½, sellers
Mining—		
S. F. des C. du T'kin	Fr. 250	\$625, buyers
Raubs	18/10d.	\$8, sellers
Peak Tramways Co., Ltd	\$10	\$14½
Philippine Co., Ltd....	\$1	\$1½
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$141½, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$18, sale & sel.
Robinson Piano Co. ...	\$50	\$50, sellers
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila...	\$25	\$10, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$36
H., Canton & M. ...	\$15	\$32½, buyers
Indo-China S. N. Co.	£5	\$42, sellers
Shell Transport Co.	£1	\$20, sellers
Star Ferry.....	\$10	\$73½, buyers
South China M. Post...	\$5	\$26
Steam Laundry Co.....	\$5	\$15½
Stores & Dispensaries—		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$24, sellers
Wm. Powell, Ltd. ...	\$7	\$4, sellers
Watkins, Ltd.....	\$10	\$5, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$8.40, sellers
Weissmann, Ltd.....	\$100	\$150, buyers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$13
Union Waterboat Co....	\$10	\$300
	\$10	\$11, sales

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI SHARE QUOTATIONS.

16th July, 1909.

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks:—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$135	\$1,025, sales
National of China...	£6	\$50, sales
Russo-Chinese	R187½	Tls. 125
Insurance:—		
Union Society C'tn	\$100	\$820, sales
North-China	£5	Tls. 112, buyers
Yangtze & Assocn. ...	\$60	\$235, sellers
Canton	\$50	\$195, sellers
Hongkong Fire.....	\$50	\$347½, sellers
China Fire.....	\$20	\$114, buyers
Shipping:—		
Indo-China { pref. }	£5	Tls. 49, sellers
Shell Trans. { ord. }	£1	70s.
& Trading { pref. }	£10	\$9.10.0
S'hai Tug & { ord. }	T50	Tls. 51½, sales
Lighter ... { pref. }	T50	Tls. 53, buyers
Taku Tug & Lighter	T50	Tls. 45, buyers
Kochien Transport-	T50	Tls. 50, sales
ation & Tow Boat		
Docks & Wharves:—		
S'hai Dock & Erg...	T100	Tls. 82½, sales
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$67, sales
S. & H'kew Wharf...	T100	Tls. 144, buyers
H. K'loon W. & G...	\$50	\$57, buyers
Yangtze	T100	Tls. 205, sales
Sugar Companies:—		
Perak Cultivation...	T50	Tls. 282½, sellers
China Refining.....	\$100	\$140, sales
Mining:—		
Raub Australian	£1	\$9, buyers
Chinese Eng. & Min.	£1	Tls. 18½
Lands:—		
S'hai Investment...	T50	Tls. 118, sales
H'kong Investment	\$100	\$107, sales
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$94, buyers
Weihaiwei	T20	Tls. 9
China	T50	Tls. 50
Anglo-French	T100	Tls. 104, buyers
Cotton:—		
Ewo	T50	Tls. 134
International	T75	T. 90
Laou Kung Mow	T100	Tls. 113, sales
Soy Chee	T500	Tls. 410, buyers
H. C. S. W. D. C. Ltd.	T10	Tls. 110, buyers
Industrial:—		
Shanghai Gas	T50	Tls. 110, buyers
Major Brothers.....	T50	Tls. 52½
Shanghai Ice.....	T25	Tls. 15
China Flour Mill...	T50	Tls. 41
S'hai Pulp & Paper	T100	Tls. 35, sales
Green Is. Cement...	\$10	\$94, sales
Shanghai Cotton	T50	Tls. 75, sales
Maatschappij, & Co.,		
in Langkat.....	Gs. 100	Tls. 975
Shanghai - Sumatra		
Tobacco	T20	Tls. 140
Dominion Rubbers...	T6	Tls. 114, sales
S'hai Waterworks...	£20	Tls. 425
Anglo-Ger. Brewery	\$100	\$75
A. Butler Cement,		
Tile Works	T50	Tls. 20
Kalumpang Rubber	T50	Tls. 180
S. R. Ber Estates...	T100	Tls. 275, sales
T. R. & T. Estate Co.	£1	Tls. 17½, sales
Eastern Fibre	£10	Tls. 10
Shanghai Electric		
Construction	£10	£7.0.0. sellers
Miscellaneous:—		
Hall & Holtz.....	\$20	\$22½, sales
A. Llewellyn	\$60	\$65
A. S. Watson & Co.	\$10	\$84, buyers
Central Orinary...	\$15	\$18, sellers
Central Founders...	\$15	\$400, buyers
S. Moutrie & Co....	\$50	\$424
Weeks & Co.	\$20	\$264, buyers
Astor House Hotel	\$25	\$19, sales
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$69, sel. ex div.
Hotel des Colonies	T12.50	Tls. 5½, sellers
Tientsin Hotel	\$100	Tls. 75, sales
Lane, Crawford & Co.	\$100	\$165
Dunning & Co.	\$50	\$35
S'hai Horse Bazar...	T50	Tls. 55, sales
S'hai Mercury	T50	Tls. 50
S'hai Mutual Tele.	T50	Tls. 63, sales
China Im. & Ex.		
Lumber	T100	Tls. 75
Shanghai Electric &		
Asbestos	\$25	\$21
Dallas Horse Re-		
pository	T50	Tls. 25
Printing Co.....	T50	Tls. 50

J. P. BISSET & Co.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s in their Share Report for the week ending July 24th, state:— A fair business has been done in Langkats and Docks during the past week. Hongkong and Shanghai Banks.—These have risen to \$1,025, at which rate sales have been effected, and there are still buyers. Shipping.—Ordinary Tugs have been done at Tls. 51 and Tls. 51½. Kochiens at Tls. 50. Indo-Chinas are offering at Tls. 49. Docks and Wharves.—Business has been done in Shanghai Docks at Tls. 79 for September. Tls. 82½ each and Tls. 85 and Tls. 84 for September. The market is easier at the close with sellers for each at Tls. 82 and for September at Tls. 83½. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves. Cash shares have placed at Tls. 151½, Tls. 150½ and Tls. 150, and for September at Tls. 153, Tls. 152½, Tls. 150, Tls. 148 and Tls. 148, Tls. 151½, Tls. 153 and Tls. 152½ for September. At close sellers offer shares for each at Tls. 150 and for September at Tls. 153. Sugars.—Peraks have been placed at Tls. 286 August. Mining.—No business reported. Lands.—Shanghai Lands have been placed at Tls. 118 ex div. Hongkong Lands are offering in Hongkong at \$107. Industrial.—Cottons. There has been only a limited business in these stocks during the week, the only transactions reported being—Ewos at Tls. 136 September and Tls. 147½, and in Laou Kung Mows at Tls. 114 September. Shanghai Gas shares are wanted Tls. 110. Shanghai Ices have placed at Tls. 15, and more shares are wanted. Maatschappij & Co., in Langkats. The market has remained fairly steady during the week. No cash business was reported. Sales have been effected for September at Tls. 1,002½, 1,005, 1,015, 1,012½, 1,020, 1,012½, 1,010, 1,005, and 1,002½ September. At the close buyers offer Tls. 975 for cash shares and Tls. 1,000 for September. Shanghai Sumatras. There has been a sharp decline in this stock owing to the poor returns on the last sales of tobacco. The market declined on the 19th to Tls. 160 for September delivery. On the 20th business was done at Tls. 155, 150, 145 and Tls. 147½ for September. On the 21st at Tls. 145 September. At closing there are buyers for cash at Tls. 147½ and for September at Tls. 142½. In Rubbers a good business has been done in Tebongs and Dominions. In the former stock at Tls. 16½ cash, Tls. 17, Tls. 17½ and Tls. 18 each, and for September Tls. 17, 17½ and Tls. 17½. The market closes with sales at Tls. 18 for cash. Dominions have been dealt in at Tls. 11 and Tls. 11½ for cash. At the close buyers offer Tls. 11½ for cash share. Kalumpungs have been placed at Tls. 180. Senawangs have been placed at Tls. 275 for cash; there are buyers at this rate. Miscellaneous.—Astor House Hotel shares have been placed at \$19. Hall & Holtz at \$22½. Debentures.—Astor 7 per cent. Debentures have been placed at Tls. 104, and Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves 6 per cent. at Tls. 102.

EXCHANGE.

HONGKONG, July 31st.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/8½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/8½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/8½
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	1/9
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/9½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/9½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	219
Credits 4 months' sight	222½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	178
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	42½
Credits, 60 days' sight	43½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	130½
Bank, on demand	131
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	130½
Bank on demand	131
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	74½
Private, 30 days' sight	75½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	84½
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	85½
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	74½
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	104½
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	9½ p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	9 p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	87
FOREIGNERS' Bank's Buying Rate.	\$11.45
GOLD LEAF 100 fine, per taol	\$59.70
SILVER 100 fine, per taol	23 ½

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

July:—

ARRIVALS.

23, Ceylon Maru, Jap. str., from Kobe.
 23, Choshun Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
 23, Delta, British str., from Shanghai.
 23, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
 23, Hongmoh, Brit. str., from Singapore.
 23, Kashing, British str., from Karatan.
 23, Kjeld, Norwegian str., from Newchwang.
 23, Marie, German str., from Moji.
 23, Quarta, German str., from Macassar.
 23, Tjikini, Dutch str., from Moji.
 24, Feiching, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 24, Hupeh, British str., from Chefoo.
 24, Johanne, German str., from Hoihow.
 24, Paklat, German str., from Bangkok.
 24, Persia, Aus. str., from Shanghai.
 24, Thordis, Nor. str., from Bangkok.
 24, Yatshing, Br. str., from Chinwangtao.
 25, Fooshing, British str., from Wuhu.
 25, Fuki Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 25, Haitan, British str., from Swatow.
 25, Huichow, British str., from Weihaiwei.
 25, Manchuria, Am. str., from San Francisco.
 25, Manila, Ger. str., from Melbourne.
 25, Mathilde, German str., from Swatow.
 25, Pingsuey, British str., from Singapore.
 25, Segura, British str., from Shanghai.
 26, Amara, British str., from Samarang.
 26, Anhui, British str., from Shanghai.
 26, Chiyo M., Jap. str., from San Francisco.
 26, Dortmund, German str., from Hamburg.
 26, Glenavon, British str., from London.
 26, Hsing Ming, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 26, Lennex, British str., from Singapore.
 26, Loksang, British str., from Chinkiang.
 26, Namsang, British str., from Yokohama.
 26, Suisang, British str., from Pulo Laut.
 26, Taming, British str., from Manila.
 26, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
 26, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
 27, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
 27, Indrapura, British str., from New York.
 27, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Hoihow.
 27, Kutsang, British str., from Calcutta.
 27, Loosok, German str., from Bangkok.
 27, Minnesota, American str., from Seattle.
 27, Patroclus, British str., from Foochow.
 28, Aitsuta Maru, Jap. str., from London.
 28, Benledi, British str., from Vladivostok.
 28, Chunsang, British str., from Wakamatsu.
 28, Goeben, Ger. str., from Hamburg.
 28, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 28, Kaifong, British str., from Cebu.
 28, Kleist, German str., from Yokohama.
 28, Linan, British str., from Shanghai.
 28, Moyori Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
 28, Pheumphen, British str., from Saigon.
 28, Sumatra, British str., from London.
 28, Tjimahi, Dutch str., from Miike.
 28, Ujina Maru, Jap. str., from Java.
 29, Chipshing, British str., from Tientsin.
 29, Daigi Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
 29, Haiyang, British str., from Coast Ports.
 29, Hongkong, French str., from Hoihow.
 29, Kamo Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
 29, Malta, British str., from Yokohama.

July:—

DEPARTURES.

23, Clam, British str., for Balik Pappan.
 23, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
 23, Inaba Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.
 23, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 23, Merapi, Dutch str., for Amoy.
 23, Soshu Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 24, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
 24, Delta, British str., for Europe, &c.
 24, E. of India, British str., for Shanghai.
 24, Fudo Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 24, Helene, German str., for Hoihow.
 24, Luchow, British str., for Haiphong.
 24, Peiho, German str., for Singapore.
 24, Rubi, British str., for Manila.
 24, Singan, British str., for Hoihow.
 25, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 25, Fausang, British str., for Saigon.
 25, Fri, Norwegian str., for Swatow.
 25, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 25, Kowloon, German str., for Haiphong.
 25, Mandasan Maru, Japanese str., for Miike.
 25, Petchaburi, German str., for Bangkok.
 25, Sungkiang, British str., for Hoilo.
 26, Cheongshing, British str., for Swatow.
 26, Hongmoh, British str., for Amoy.

26, Kansu, British str., for Cebu.
 26, Kweiyang, British str., for Tsingtau.
 26, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 26, Onsang, British str., for Singapore.
 26, Segura, British str., for Singapore.
 26, Yochow, British str., for Amoy.
 27, Catherine Apcar, Br. str., for Singapore.
 27, Ceylon Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
 27, China, American str., for Amoy.
 27, Choshun Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 27, Haitan, French str., for Haiphong.
 27, Haldis, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 27, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 27, Kiang Ching, Chi. str., for Chinkiang.
 27, Lennox, British str., for Shanghai.
 27, Namsang, British str., for Singapore.
 27, Pingsuey, British str., for Shanghai.
 27, Taming, British str., for Manila.
 27, Yingchow, British str., for Swatow.
 28, Clara Jeben, German str., for Haiphong.
 28, Dortmund, German str., for Shanghai.
 28, Feiching, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 28, Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Haiphong.
 28, Glenavon, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Johanne, German str., for Haiphong.
 28, Kaifuku Maru, Jap. str., for Wakamatsu.
 28, Kjeld, Norwegian str., for Newchwang.
 28, Kumeric, British str., for Keelung.
 28, Mathilde, German str., for Hoihow.
 28, M. Castle, British str., for Manila.
 28, Persia, Austrian str., for Singapore.
 28, Pongtong, German str., for Bangkok.
 28, Thordis, Norwegian str., for Swatow.
 29, Anhui, British str., for Shanghai.
 29, Goeben, German str., for Shanghai.
 29, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 29, Indrapura, British str., for Shanghai.
 29, Kleist, German str., for Europe, &c.
 29, Malta, British str., for Singapore.
 29, Paklat, German str., for Swatow.
 29, Sumatra, British str., for Shanghai.
 29, Tjikini, Dutch str., for Batavia.
 29, Tjimahi, Dutch str., for Batavia.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per *Jacob Diederichsen*, from Tourane, Mr Otto.
 Per *Persia*, from Shanghai, Mr William Hill.
 Per *Anhui*, from Shanghai, Messrs McGee and Artindale.
 Per *Feiching*, from Shanghai, Mr Wilkinson and Mr Ramsay.
 Per *Tjikini*, from Moji, Mrs Lamberts, two daughters and baby.
 Per *Haitan*, from Swatow, Mr and Mrs Ruoth, Messrs Dubois and J. Robertson.
 Per *Namsang*, from Japan, Mr and Mrs R. Moore, Misses Kennett and B. M. Kennett.
 Per *Aitsuta Maru*, from London, &c., Messrs Samuel C. Reat, K. Kondo, G. R. Clerk, G. D. Auld and E. M. Raymond.
 Per *Zafiro*, from Manila, Mrs E. Hoffner, Miss C. Tracey, Rev. P. E. McGee, Messrs A. Illubeyer and I. C. Argelsurger.
 Per *Kamo Maru*, from Japan, &c., Mrs F. Grove and child, Mrs J. Deans, Lieut. E. W. H. March, Messrs W. Deans, N. Chitani, H. P. Pattenden and A. L. Rae.
 Per *Kleist*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mrs C. M. Anderson, Mrs E. Griffith, Mrs Paul, Messrs A. B. Pollock, E. Lund and W. Chappo; from Shanghai, Mrs Copell and 2 children, Miss E. Lauro, Messrs G. O. Margues and H. Miller.
 Per *Sumatra*, for Hongkong, from London, Messrs G. S. Archbutt and J. S. Chapman; from Singapore, Dr. E. Talmage; for Shanghai, from London, Mr J. W. Wilem; from Singapore, Mr R. Frame; from Singapore, for Yokohama, Mr A. Whickham.
 Per *Goeben*, for Hongkong, from Southampton, Messrs W. Sweetman and Edw. Cheshire; from Genoa, Messrs A. Levie, M. Weintraub and Karl Martens; from Naples, Mr F. Pastarana; from Singapore, Messrs Fulien Blum and C. D. Scheltus.
 Per *Manila*, for Hongkong, from Sydney, Mrs E. Morrison, infant and nurse, and Mr E. C. Richardson; from Simpsonhafen, Marine-Stabsarzt Dr. Baum, Messrs A. van der Laan, R. Schilling and Albert Konitz; from Manila, Mrs Alice Lehn, Messrs E. Wellmann, J. D. Huff, R. F. Moss, M. Erbi and Emanuel Glumao; from Sydney, for Nagasaki, Mr Peter Clechenki.

Per *Linan*, from Shanghai, Capt. Brierley and Mr Mell.

Per *Chipshing*, from Tientsin, &c., Messrs Paul and Madigall.

Per *Choysang*, from Shanghai, &c., Miss Quinn, Messrs Warren and Parker.

Per *Malta*, from Yokohama, Miss Pearce, Messrs T. F. Young, Ball & Runciman.

Per *Haiyang*, from Foochow &c., Mr and Mrs Giles, Mr and Mrs Kemp, Messrs Robson and Mishima.

Per *Huichow*, from Weihaiwei, Mr and Mrs Phillip, 2 children and governess, and Major Kirkpatrick.

Per *Kutsang*, from Calcutta, Mrs J. B. Mosely, Miss Mosely, Capt. A. R. C. Sanders, &c., Messrs J. H. Oxley, H. & J. Christensen.

Per *Chiyo Maru*, for Hongkong, from San Francisco, Mrs C. K. Dunlap, Mrs M. R. Simpson, Miss S. Dunlap, Capt. J. N. Coffin, Dr. J. Spencer Hough, Dr. Carrie E. Leiberg, Messrs Ferd. Boynton, Lee E. Collier, E. M. L'Engle, Roger S. Hardy, B. W. La Prade, C. C. McCollum, F. Miller, Cecil D. Rainey, S. C. Ridgeway, Carl W. Shepardson, John J. Snidow, Dwight Whiting; from Yokohama, Mr K. Nakahama; from Nagasaki, Mr A. Mitsuhashi; from Shanghai, Messrs J. F. Bromfield, F. Ehrhardt, L. Knox, & S. Salmon and Tokunaga.

Per *Minnesota*, from Seattle, &c., Mr and Mrs J. W. Dorris, Mr and Mrs W. Wallace, Mr and Mrs H. P. Whitmarsh, Mrs M. J. Powles, Mrs R. M. Laper, Mrs H. Pendleton and child, Mrs L. Ashad and children, Mrs J. D. Leitch and child, Mrs J. P. Hedges and child, Mrs J. M. J. Saine, Mrs J. A. Ammerman, Mrs S. C. Musgrave, Mrs L. Heyman, Mrs A. J. Levy, Misses Ruth Dorris, Rena Dorris, B. Kageur, D. Annan, Hazel Heath, W. Johnson, J. G. Hope, H. McCauley, M. Atwace, E. S. Yule, C. H. Obey, O. Powley, E. Wallace and Z. Kincaid, Dr. S. D. Hopkins, Captains J. D. Leitch and E. L. Baker, Lieut. S. C. Musgrave, Col. W. R. Abareremote, Judge W. M. Rhode, Master P. Whitmarsh, Messrs A. M. Stevenson, J. B. Hedges, J. Holtman, H. R. Slooper, J. A. Ammerman, M. Gonzales, W. L. Blackett, S. Feliceo, G. S. Laue, F. W. Prasing, & F. McWilliams, R. M. Leper, J. W. Quilling, H. Marguey, G. W. Lank, E. Feliceo, R. R. Birch, & Sutherland and W. L. Brown.

DEPARTED.

Per *Rubi*, for Manila, Mr and Mrs E. Block, Mr and Mrs A. Vidal, Masters R. Baumann, H. Baumann and G. Go Tanco, Miss L. M. Medland, Messrs A. Camara, V. Camara, J. B. Manley and J. T. Gate.

Per *Empress of India*, for Shanghai, &c., Mr and Mrs McCaffery and maid, Mrs Geo. Cross, Mrs J. Ginkel, Messrs Jules Behr, Lennett, J. J. Woodruff, L. A. Lussdorf, H. Oishi, H. B. Hickman, Owgand King, S. Green, J. Hall Brutton, H. Deseille and H. K. Kouyoumian.

Per *Kamo Maru*, for London, Mr and Mrs A. Muller, Mr and Mrs Doyle and child, Mr and Mrs d'gostini and child, Mrs A. Rae, Mrs Lander and child, Miss Lander, Viscount S. Ito, Lt.-Col. T. Idogawa, Dr. H. Miyahara, Messrs M. H. O'Brien, Y. Sugimura, B. Rubota, K. Nishimura, B. Madhavdas, F. Young, K. Hall, R. Tomoda, T. Tsutsui, Y. Mikami and J. Tomoda.

Per *Kleist*, for Bremen, Mr and Mrs F. B. Cooper, Mr and Mrs Baron von Leyden, Mr and Mrs H. Sommers, Mr and Mrs J. Vandergrift, Mrs Morrison, child and governess, Mrs J. Madden and child, Miss Caroline Trace, Lieuts. J. M. Baxter, J. E. Frickel, E. S. Miller and Wm. C. Stoll, Rev. D. Collins and family, Doctors J. Ahlburg, Baum, O. Muller and O. Rabberthge, Messrs Blackburn, H. Banett, Walter Bugge, Alex. Clarke, B. F. Dake, F. H. Fries, E. Gilbert, F. H. Hsue, de Huff, Harld Herring, Alfred Illenberger, J. Kreling, Ingenieur Kindler, Albert Konitz, Kelly, von der Laan, Moss, D. M. Mickle, Neuffer and family, W. J. Pete, E. F. O'Reilly, Rutgers and family, Richard Schilling, E. McVay and family, John M. Vandergrift and Jacob W. S. Wust.

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